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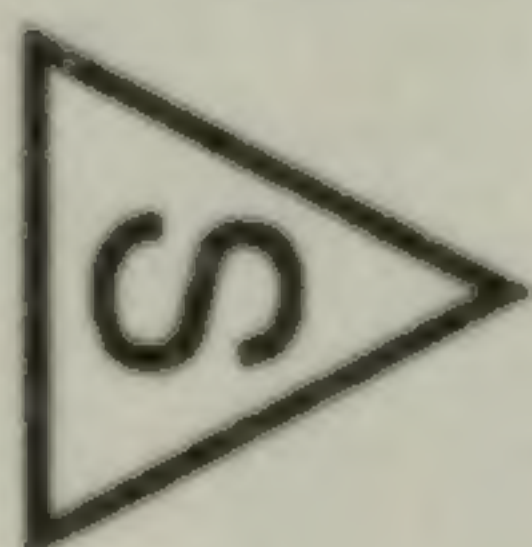


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Webster's New WorldTM Dictionary

Fourth Edition

MICHAEL AGNES

Editor in Chief



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FOREWORD

This new Pocket Books paperback dictionary is based on the acclaimed *Webster's New World College Dictionary, Fourth Edition*, published in 1999. It is a completely new work: the previous paperback edition was published in 1990 and revised in 1995. As were all previous editions, it has been edited for readers who need a reliable, up-to-date, portable dictionary for use in the home, at school, or in the office.

The dictionary offers broad coverage of idiomatic expressions, supplements definitions with many helpful illustrative phrases, and provides brief but helpful usage labels and etymologies. Every entry has been designed to enhance the reader's understanding of current meanings and connotations. This dictionary reflects the expertise of Webster's New World staff lexicographers, who have a combined 150 years of experience in editing dictionaries.

This latest edition includes comprehensive coverage of changes in the political structure of Europe and Africa during the past decade and thousands of new terms in the rapidly changing vocabulary of American English. These terms range from technical terminology to slang and include *anti-lock*, *bandwidth*, *balsamic vinegar*, *bipolar*, *broadband*, *HTML*, *microbrewery*, *no-brainer*, *reboot*, *sport utility vehicle*, *up to speed*, *warp speed*, *World Wide Web*, and many others.

Every reader is encouraged to read the Guide to the Use of the Dictionary, which begins on page *v*. It gives a clear explanation of how to access the wealth of information stored within the dictionary's entries.

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GUIDE TO THE USE OF THE DICTIONARY

I. GUIDE WORDS

The two GUIDE WORDS at the top of each page indicate the alphabetical range of entries on that page. The first and last main entry words on a page serve as the GUIDE WORDS.

II. THE MAIN ENTRY WORD

A. Arrangement of Entries—All main entries, including single words, hyphenated and unhyphenated compounds, proper names, prefixes, suffixes, combining forms, and abbreviations, are listed in strict alphabetical order and are set in large boldface type.

a² (ə; stressed, ā) *adj.* ...

a³ *abbrev.* 1 about 2 ...

a⁻² *prefix* ...

aard·vark (ärd'värk') *n.* ...

Aar·on (er'ən) *n. Bible* ...

AB¹ (ā'bē') *n.* a blood type

AB² *abbrev.* 1 Alberta (Canada) 2 ...

ab- [[L]] *prefix* ...

a·back (ə bak') *adv.* [Archaic] backward; back — taken aback ...

In biographical entries only the last, or family, name is used in alphabetization; but when two or more persons have the same family name, they appear within the entry block in alphabetical order by first names.

John·son (jän'sən) 1 **An·drew** ... 2
Lyn·don Baines ... 3 **Samuel** ...

Biographical and geographical names that are spelled the same way are given separate entry blocks.

Idiomatic phrases after a main entry are also listed alphabetically within each group.

fly¹ (fli) *vi.* ... —let fly (at) ... —on the fly ...

B. Alternative Spellings and Variant Forms—When different spellings of a word are some distance apart alphabetically, the definition appears with the spelling most frequently used, and the other spellings are cross-referred to this entry. If two commonly used alternative spellings are alphabetically close to each other, they appear as a joint boldface entry, but the order of entry does not necessarily indicate that the form entered first is "more correct" or is preferred.

the·a·ter or **the·a·tre** (thē'ə tər) *n.* ...

If an alternative spelling is alphabetically close to the prevailing spelling, it is given at the end of the entry block in small boldface.

cook'ie *n.* ...: also **cook'y**, *pl.* -ies ...

C. Cross-references—When an entry is cross-referred to another term that has the same meaning but is more frequently

used, the entry cross-referred to is usually set in small capitals.

an·aes·the·sia ... *n.* ANESTHESIA ...

D. Homographs—Main entries that are spelled alike but are different in meaning and origin, such as **bat** (a club), **bat** (the animal), and **bat** (to wink), have separate entry blocks and are marked by superscript numbers following the boldface spelling.

bat¹ ... *n.* ...

bat² ... *n.* ...

bat³ ... *vt.* ...

E. Foreign Terms—Foreign words and phrases occurring with some frequency in English, but not completely naturalized, are set in boldface italic type. This is a signal to the user of the dictionary to print these terms in italics or underline them in writing.

bon·jour (bōn zhōōr') *interj., n.* [[Fr]] ...

F. Prefixes, Suffixes, & Combining Forms—Prefixes and initial combining forms have a hyphen at the end.

hemi- ... *prefix* half ...

Suffixes and terminal combining forms have a hyphen at the beginning.

-a·ble ... *suffix* 1 that can or will ...

The abundance of these forms, whose syllabification and pronunciation can be determined from the words containing them, makes it possible for the reader to understand and pronounce many complex terms not entered in the dictionary but formed with affixes and words that are entered.

G. Word Division—Boldface entry words are divided into syllables that are separated by either a center dot or a stress mark.

gen'er·a'tor
in'ter·me'di·ar'y

For information regarding stress marks, see the GUIDE TO PRONUNCIATION.

III. PRONUNCIATION

The handling of pronunciations in this dictionary is explained in the GUIDE TO PRONUNCIATION, which follows this general guide.

IV. PART-OF-SPEECH LABELS

This dictionary gives part-of-speech labels, in boldface italic type, for most main entry words that are solid or hyphenated forms. Labels are not given to prefixes, suffixes, combining forms, trademarks and service marks, abbreviations, and biographical and geographical entries.

Here are the part-of-speech labels used in this dictionary:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| <i>n.</i> | noun |
| <i>pl.n.</i> | plural noun |
| <i>sing.n.</i> | singular noun |
| <i>fem.n.</i> | feminine noun |
| <i>masc.n.</i> | masculine noun |
| <i>pron.</i> | pronoun |
| <i>v.</i> | verb |
| <i>vt.</i> | transitive verb |
| <i>vi.</i> | intransitive verb |
| <i>v.aux.</i> | auxiliary verb |
| <i>v.impersonal</i> | impersonal verb |
| <i>adj.</i> | adjective |
| <i>adv.</i> | adverb |
| <i>prep.</i> | preposition |
| <i>conj.</i> | conjunction |
| <i>interj.</i> | interjection |
| <i>definite article</i> | |
| <i>indefinite article</i> | |
| <i>possessive pronominal adj.</i> | |

When an entry word is used as more than one part of speech, long dashes introduce each separate part-of-speech label.

round ... *adj.* ... —*n.* ... —*vt.* ... —*vi.* ... —*adv.* ... —*prep.* ...

Sometimes an entry has two or more part-of-speech labels separated by commas, with a definition or cross-reference that is understood to apply to all parts of speech.

des·patch ... *vt., n.* DISPATCH

V. INFLECTED FORMS

This dictionary shows three types of inflected forms: plurals of nouns, principal parts of verbs, and comparative and superlative forms of adjectives and adverbs.

Only inflected forms regarded as irregular or offering difficulty in spelling are entered. They appear in boldface immediately after the part-of-speech label. They are shortened where possible, and syllabified and pronounced where necessary.

cit·y ... *n., pl.* -ies ...
hap·py ... *adj.* -**pi·er**, -**pi·est** ...
an'a·lyze' ... *vt.* -**lyzed'**, -**lyz'ing** ...

Plurals: This dictionary does not show regular plurals:

- 1) formed by adding -s to the singular (**cats**)
- 2) formed by adding -es to a singular that ends with s, x, z, and sh (**boxes** or **bushes**)
- 3) formed by adding -es to a singular that ends with ch when ch is pronounced [ch] (**churches**) and by adding -s when ch is pronounced [k] (**stomachs**)

Principal Parts: This dictionary does not show principal parts when:

- 1) the past tense and past participle are formed by simply adding -ed to the infinitive (**search/searched**, **talk/talked**)

- 2) the present participle is formed by simply adding -ing to the infinitive (**search/searching**, **talk/talking**)

If only two principal parts are shown, as at **love**, the first is both the past tense and the past participle (**loved**) and the second is the present participle (**loving**). If three principal parts are shown, as at **go**, the first is the past tense (**went**), the second is the past participle (**gone**), and the third is the present participle (**going**).

Comparatives & Superlatives: This dictionary does not show comparatives and superlatives formed by the simple addition of -er or -est to the base form (**tall/taller/tallest**).

VI. ETYMOLOGY

The etymology, or word history, appears inside open double brackets immediately before the definitions. The symbols and abbreviations used in the etymologies are found in the list immediately preceding page 1 of the dictionary proper.

di·shev·el ... [**< OFr des-**, **DIS-** + **chevel**, hair] ...

If the parts making up an entry word are obvious to the reader, no etymology appears at that entry.

VII. THE DEFINITIONS

A. Order of Senses—In general, each entry lists meanings in historical order; the standard, general senses of a word appear first. Informal, slang, etc. senses come next. Technical senses preceded by field labels, such as *Astron.* or *Chem.*, follow in alphabetical order.

B. Numbering & Grouping of Senses—Senses are numbered consecutively within a part of speech in boldface numerals. Where a primary sense of a word is subdivided into several closely related meanings, those meanings are preceded by italicized letters.

flat¹ ... *adj.* ... 1 having ... 2 lying ... 10 *Music* a) lower ... b) below —*adv.* ... —*n.* 1 anything ... 2 ... 3 *Music* a) a note ... b) the symbol ... —*vt.* ... —*vi.* ...

C. Capitalization—If a main entry word is capitalized in all its senses, the entry word itself begins with a capital letter. If a capitalized main entry word has a sense or senses that are not capitalized, these are marked with the corresponding small-boldface, lowercase letter followed by a short dash and enclosed in brackets.

Pu·ri·tan ... *n.* ... 1 ... 2 [p-] ...

If a lowercase main entry word has a meaning or meanings that are capitalized, they are marked with the corresponding small-boldface, uppercase letter followed by a short dash and enclosed in brackets.

left¹ ... —*n.* 1 ... 2 [*often* L-] ...

In some of these usage notes, a self-explanatory qualifying word may be added.

D. Plural Forms—In a singular noun entry, the designation “[*pl.*]” (or “[*often pl.*],” “[*usually pl.*],” etc.) before a definition indicates that it is (or *often, usually, etc.* is) the plural form of the entry word that has the meaning given in the definition.

look ... *vi.* ... —*n.* 1 ... 2 ... 3 [*Inf.*] *a)* [*usually pl.*] appearance *b)* [*pl.*] personal appearance ...

If a plural is used as a singular with a singular verb, the designation [*with sing. v.*] is added.

E. Verbs Followed by Prepositions or Objects—In many cases, one or more specific prepositions follow a particular verb in general use. This dictionary shows this either by including the preposition in the definition, italicized and usually enclosed in parentheses, or by adding a note after the definition giving the particular prepositions associated with that definition of the verb.

In definitions of transitive verbs, the specific or generalized object of the verb, where given, is enclosed in parentheses, since the object is not grammatically part of the definition of the verb.

F. Illustrative Examples—Phrases or sentences containing the entry word and showing how it is used in context are enclosed in italic brackets. The word being illustrated is set in italics within its phrase or sentence.

a-cross ... *adv.* ... —*prep.* 1... 2 ... 3 into contact with by chance [*to come across an old friend*]

VIII. USAGE LABELS

People use language in different ways depending on differences in geographic location, age, education, and employment; people's individual language usage varies also according to the situation they are in or their purpose in speaking or writing. The usage labels used in this dictionary are listed below, with an explanation of each.

Informal: The word or meaning is widely used in everyday talk, personal letters, etc., but not in formal speaking or writing. Abbreviated *Inf.*

Slang: The word or meaning is not generally considered standard usage but is used, even by the best speakers and writers, in very informal situations or for creating special effects. People belonging to a certain group often use their own slang terms.

Old Informal, Old Slang: The word or meaning was informal or slang when regularly used in the recent past and is not used much today.

Obsolete: The word or meaning is no longer used but occurs in earlier writings. Abbreviated *Obs.*

Archaic: The word or meaning is not used in ordinary speech or writing today but occurs in certain special situations such as church ritual and in older books.

Old-fashioned: The word or meaning is not yet considered archaic but seems out-of-date.

Rare: The word or meaning has never been in general use.

Now Rare: The word or meaning is not used much today but was in general use in the past.

Historical: The word or meaning refers to something that no longer exists and for which there is not a modern term.

Old Poetic: The word or meaning was often used in the past, especially in poetry, but is used today only in certain kinds of traditional or somewhat old-fashioned poetry. Abbreviated *Old Poet.*

Literary: The word or meaning is regarded as having an elevated, polished, highly formal quality.

Dialect: The word or meaning is used regularly only in certain geographical areas. When a word or meaning is used mainly in some specific area of the U.S., a more specific label, such as *South* or *Northwest*, appears. Abbreviated *Dial.*

British: The word or meaning is used mainly in Great Britain and also, usually, in the other English-speaking regions of the world outside the U.S. Abbreviated *Brit.*

Canadian (or Irish, etc.): The word or meaning is used mainly in Canada (or Ireland, etc.). Abbreviated *Cdn.*, etc.

In addition to the above usage labels, supplementary information often appears in a short note after the definition, indicating that a word or meaning is used in an insulting, familiar, ironic, humorous, or other way.

IX. RUN-IN DERIVED ENTRIES

It is possible in English to create an almost infinite number of derived forms simply by adding certain prefixes and suffixes to the base word. The editors have included as many of these common derived words as space permitted, as run-in entries in boldface type—but only when the meaning of such words is immediately clear from the meanings of the base words and the affixes.

Thus, **greatness** and **liveliness** are run in at the end of the entries for **great** and **lively**; the suffix **-ness** is found as a separate entry meaning “state, quality, or instance of being.” Many words formed

with common suffixes, such as **-able**, **-er**, **-less**, **-like**, **-ly**, and **-tion**, are similarly treated as run-in entries with the base word from which they are derived. All such entries are syllabified and either

accented to show stress in pronunciation or, where necessary, pronounced in full or in part.

When a derived word has a meaning or meanings different from those that can be deduced from the sum of its parts, it has been entered separately, pronounced, and fully defined (see **folder**).

GUIDE TO PRONUNCIATION

I. PRONUNCIATION STYLE

Pronunciations are provided as needed. Pronunciations are given in parentheses immediately after the boldface entry word:

mil·len·ni·um (mi len'ē əm)

Pronunciations have sometimes been shortened so as to cover only a particular part of the entry word, generally the part most likely to cause confusion or difficulty. Hyphens are used to indicate which part of the pronunciation is not shown.

home'stead' (-sted')

More than one pronunciation is sometimes given. Each variant pronunciation may be regarded as having wide currency in American English unless a qualifying note has been added to a particular variant indicating that it is less common. Variants may be also qualified with respect to particular grammatical usage.

av·o·ca·do (av'ə kă'dō, ä'və-)

ex·cuse (ek skyōōz'; for n., -skyōōs')

This dictionary does not attempt to cover all pronunciations of a given word and does not indicate differences arising out of various regional dialects.

II.. PRONUNCIATION KEY

The Pronunciation Key lists the pronunciation symbols used in this dictionary along with several Key Words. Key Words are short, familiar words that illustrate each of the various sounds represented by the symbols.

PRONUNCIATION KEY

Vowel Sounds

| <u>Symbol</u> | <u>Key Words</u> |
|---------------|--------------------|
| a | at, cap, parrot |
| ā | ape, play, sail |
| ä | cot, father, heart |
| e | ten, wealth, merry |
| ē | even, feet, money |
| i | is, stick, mirror |
| ī | ice, high, sky |
| ō | go, open, tone |
| ô | all, law, horn |
| oo | could, look, pull |
| yoo | cure, furious |
| ōō | boot, crew, tune |
| yōō | cute, few, use |
| oi | boy, oil, royal |
| ou | cow, out, sour |

| | |
|----|----------------------------|
| u | mud, ton, blood, trouble |
| ʊ | her, sir, word |
| ə | ago, agent, collect, focus |
| ɪ | cattle, paddle |
| 'n | sudden, sweeten |

Consonant Sounds

| <u>Symbol</u> | <u>Key Words</u> |
|---------------|-------------------------|
| b | bed, table, rob |
| d | dog, middle, sad |
| f | for, phone, cough |
| g | get, wiggle, dog |
| h | hat, hope, ahead |
| hw | which, white |
| j | joy, badge, agent |
| k | kill, cat, quiet |
| l | let, yellow, ball |
| m | meet, number, time |
| n | net, candle, ton |
| p | put, sample, escape |
| r | red, wrong, born |
| s | sit, castle, office |
| t | top, letter, cat |
| v | voice, every, love |
| w | wet, always, quart |
| y | yes, canyon, onion |
| z | zoo, misery, rise |
| ch | chew, nature, punch |
| sh | shell, machine, bush |
| th | thin, nothing, truth |
| th | then, other, bathe |
| zh | beige, measure, seizure |
| ŋ | ring, anger, drink |

III.. FOREIGN SOUNDS

A number of foreign words are entered in the dictionary. An approximation of the native pronunciation—typically French or Spanish in this dictionary—has been provided. Foreign pronunciations use sounds not generally found in English, and, therefore, some additional pronunciation symbols are required. Below is a short explanation of these symbols.

| | |
|---|--|
| â | Used in French; a sound between [a] as in <i>cat</i> and [ä] as in <i>cot</i> . |
| ë | Used in French; round the lips as though to say <i>oh</i> while pronouncing [e] as in <i>get</i> . |
| ö | Used chiefly in French; round the lips as though to say <i>oh</i> while pronouncing the sound [ä] as in <i>ate</i> . |

Guide to Pronunciation

- ø Used in French, German, Spanish, etc.; round the lips loosely as though to say *aw* while pronouncing [u] as in *cut*.
- ü Used in French and German; round the lips as though to say *oh* while pronouncing [ē] as in *meet*.
- kh Used in German and Scots English; pronounce [k] while allowing the breath to escape in a stream, as in saying [h].
- H Used in German; pronounce [sh] while keeping the tip of the tongue pointed downward.
- n Used chiefly in French; this symbol indicates that the vowel sound preceding it is pronounced with air expelled through both the mouth and the nose.

x

r

Pronounce [r] with a vibrating of the tip of the tongue in Spanish or Italian, or with a trilling of the uvula in French or German.

Used in French to indicate that a final consonant is short and unvoiced or that a letter *e* is silent or nearly so.

y'

Used in Russian; pronounce an unvoiced [y] immediately after pronouncing the preceding consonant.

IV. STRESS MARKS

Stress marks appear in the pronunciations and in boldface entry words that are not given full pronunciation. A heavy mark ['] after a syllable indicates that the syllable is spoken with the most force. A light mark [ˈ] after a syllable indicates that the syllable is spoken with relatively less force. Syllables with no marking are given the least force.

dic·tion·ar·y (dik'shə ner'ē)

ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS USED IN THIS DICTIONARY

| | | | |
|--------------|---------------------------|------------|--------------------|
| abbrev. | abbreviated, abbreviation | Ex. | example |
| adj. | adjective | exc. | except |
| adv. | adverb | F | Fahrenheit |
| Afr | African | fem. | feminine |
| Afrik | Afrikaans | Fl | Flemish |
| alt. | alternative | fol. | following entry |
| Am | American | Fr | French |
| AmInd | American Indian | ft. | foot, feet |
| AmSp | American Spanish | Gael | Gaelic |
| Anat. | Anatomy | Geol. | Geology |
| Anglo-Fr | Anglo-French | Geom. | Geometry |
| Ar | Arabic | Ger | German |
| Aram | Aramaic | Gmc | Germanic |
| Archit. | Architecture | Gr | Classical Greek |
| Austral. | Australian | Gram. | Grammar |
| Biol. | Biology | Haw | Hawaiian |
| Bot. | Botany | Heb | Hebrew |
| Brit | British | Hung | Hungarian |
| C | Celsius | IE | Indo-European |
| c. | century | i.e. | that is |
| c | circa | in. | inch(es) |
| cap. | capital city | indic. | indicative |
| Cdn | Canadian | Inf., inf. | informal |
| Celt | Celtic | infl. | influenced |
| cf. | compare | intens. | intensive |
| Ch. | Church | interj. | interjection |
| Chem. | Chemistry | Ir | Irish |
| Chin | Chinese | It | Italian |
| compar. | comparative | Jpn | Japanese |
| Comput. | Computer Science | km | kilometer(s) |
| conj. | conjunction | L | Classical Latin |
| contr. | contraction (grammar) | lb. | pound(s) |
| Dan | Danish | lit. | literally |
| Dial., dial. | dialectal | LL | Late Latin |
| dim. | diminutive | LowG | Low German |
| Du | Dutch | m | meter(s) |
| E | eastern, English | masc. | masculine |
| EC | east central | Math. | Mathematics |
| Eccles. | Ecclesiastical | MDu | Middle Dutch |
| Educ. | Education | ME | Middle English |
| e.g. | for example | Mech. | Mechanics |
| Egypt | Egyptian | Med. | Medicine |
| Elec. | Electricity | met. | metropolitan |
| Eng | English | Mex | Mexican |
| Esk | Eskimo | MHG | Middle High German |
| esp. | especially | mi. | mile(s) |
| etc. | and the like | Mil. | Military |

| | | | |
|------------|-------------------------|----------|-------------------------|
| ML | Middle Latin | Prov | Provençal |
| ModGr | Modern Greek | prp. | present participle |
| ModL | modern scientific Latin | pseud. | pseudonym |
| Myth | Mythology | Psychol. | Psychology |
| N | northern | pt. | past tense |
| n. | noun | R.C.Ch. | Roman Catholic Church |
| Naut. | nautical usage | Rom. | Roman |
| NC | north central | Russ | Russian |
| NE | northeastern | S | southern |
| NormFr | Norman French | Sans | Sanskrit |
| Norw | Norwegian | SC | south central |
| NW | northwestern | Scand | Scandinavian |
| Obs., obs. | obsolete | Scot | Scottish |
| occas. | occasionally | SE | southeastern |
| OE | Old English | sing. | singular |
| OFr. | Old French | sing.n. | singular noun |
| OHG | Old High German | Sp | Spanish |
| ON | Old Norse | sp. | spelling, spelled |
| orig. | origin, originally | specif. | specifically |
| OS | Old Saxon | sq. | square |
| OSlav | Old Church Slavonic | superl. | superlative |
| oz. | ounce(s) | SW | southwestern |
| pers. | person (grammar) | Swed | Swedish |
| Pers | Persian | Theol. | Theology |
| Photog. | Photography | transl. | translated, translation |
| pl. | plural | Turk | Turkish |
| pl.n. | plural noun | ult. | ultimately |
| Poet. | Poetic | v. | verb |
| Pol | Polish | var. | variant |
| pop. | population | v.aux. | auxiliary verb |
| Port | Portuguese | vi. | intransitive verb |
| poss. | possessive | VL | Vulgar Latin |
| pp. | past participle | vt. | transitive verb |
| prec. | preceding entry | W | western |
| prep. | preposition | WC | west central |
| pres. | present tense | WInd | West Indian |
| prob. | probably | WWI | World War I |
| pron. | pronoun | WWII | World War II |

Symbols

| | | | |
|---|----------------------|---|--------|
| < | derived from | & | and |
| ? | uncertain or unknown | ° | degree |
| + | plus | | |

A

a¹ or A (ā) *n.*, *pl.* **a's, A's** (āz) the first letter of the English alphabet

a² (ə; *stressed*, ā) *adj.*, *indefinite article* [**< AN**] 1 one; one sort of 2 each; any one —**prep.** per [once a day] Before words beginning with a consonant sound, *a* is used [a child, a home, a uniform] See AN

a³ abbrev. 1 about 2 adjective 3 alto 4 answer

A¹ (ā) *n.* 1 a blood type 2 a grade indicating excellence 3 *Music* the sixth tone in the scale of C major

A² abbrev. 1 answer 2 April 3 *Baseball, Basketball* assist(s) 4 August

a-¹ [**< OE**] *prefix* 1 in, into, on, at, to [ashore] 2 in the act or state of [asleep]

a-² prefix 1 [**< OE**] up, out [arise] 2 [**< OE**] off, of [akin] 3 [**< Gr**] not, without [amoral]

AA abbrev. 1 Alcoholics Anonymous 2 Associate in (or of) Arts

aard·vark (ārd'vārk') *n.* [**Du**; earth pig] a nocturnal, ant-eating S African mammal

Aar·on (er'an) *n.* *Bible* the first high priest of the Hebrews

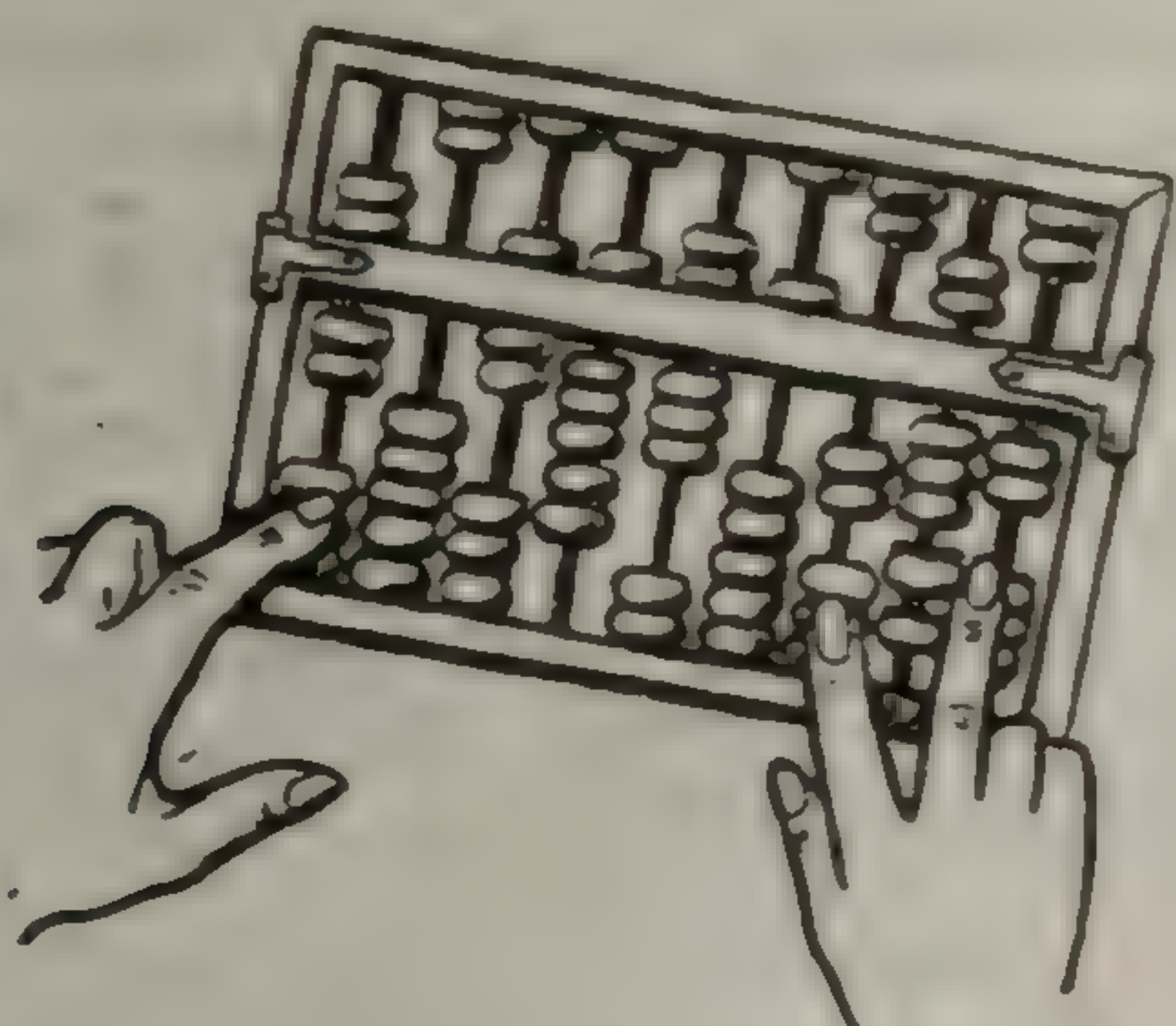
AB¹ (ā'bē') *n.* a blood type

AB² abbrev. 1 Alberta (Canada) 2 Bachelor of Arts: also A.B.

ab- [**L**] *prefix* away, from, from off, down [abdicate]

ABA abbrev. American Bar Association

a·back (ə bak') *adv.* [Archaic] backward; back —**taken aback** startled and confused; surprised



ABACUS

ab·a·cus (ab'ə kəs) *n.*, *pl.* **-cus·es or -ci'(-sī')** [**< Gr abax**] a frame with sliding beads for doing arithmetic

a·baft (ə baft') *adv.* [**< OE on**, on + *be*, by + *æftan*, aft] aft —**prep.** *Naut.* behind

ab·a·lo·ne (ab'ə lō'nē) *n.* [**< AmInd**] an edible sea mollusk with an oval, somewhat spiral shell

a·ban·don (ə ban'dən) *vt.* [**< OFr mettre a bandon**, to put under (another's) ban] 1 to give up completely 2 to desert —*n.* unrestrained activity; exuberance —**a·ban'don·ment** *n.*

a·ban'doned *adj.* 1 deserted 2 shamefully wicked 3 unrestrained

a·base (ə bās') *vt.* **a·based', a·bas'ing** [**< ML abassare**, to lower] to humble —**a·base'ment** *n.*

a·bash (ə bash') *vt.* [**< OFr es-**, intens. + *baer*, gape] to make ashamed and uneasy; disconcert —**a·bash'ed·ly** *adv.*

a·bate (ə bāt') *vt.*, *vi.* **a·bat'ed, a·bat'ing** [**< OFr abattre**, beat down] 1 to make or become less 2 *Law* to end —**a·bate'ment** *n.*

ab·at·toir (ab'ə twär') *n.* [**Fr**: see prec.] a slaughterhouse

ab·bé (a'bā) *n.* [**Fr**: see ABBOT] a French priest's title

ab·bess (ab'əs) *n.* [**see ABBOT**] a woman who heads a convent of nuns

ab·bey (ab'ē) *n.* 1 a monastery or convent 2 a church belonging to an abbey

ab·bot (ab'ət) *n.* [**< Aram abbā**, father] a man who heads a monastery

abbr or abbrev abbrev. 1 abbreviated 2 abbreviation

ab·bre·vi·ate (ə brē'vē āt') *vt.* **-at'ed, -at'ing** [**< L ad-**, to + *brevis*, brief] to make shorter; esp., to shorten (a word) by omitting letters

ab·bre·vi·a'tion (-ā'shən) *n.* 1 a shortening 2 a shortened form of a word or phrase, as *Mr.* for *Mister*

ABC (ā'bē'sē') *n.*, *pl.* **ABC's** [*usually pl.*] 1 the alphabet 2 the basic elements (of a subject)

ab·di·cate (ab'di kāt') *vt.*, *vi.* **-cat'ed, -cat'ing** [**< L ab-**, off + *dicare*, to proclaim] 1 to give up formally (a throne, etc.) 2 to surrender (a right, responsibility, etc.) —**ab'di·ca'tion** *n.*

ab·do·men (ab'də mən, ab dō'-) *n.* [**L**] the part of the body between the diaphragm and the pelvis; belly —**ab·dom'i·nal** (-dām'ə nəl) *adj.*

ab·duct (ab dukt') *vt.* [**< L ab-**, away + *ducere*, to lead] to kidnap —**ab·duc'tion** *n.* —**ab·duc'tor** *n.*

a·beam (ə bēm') *adv.*, *adj.* at right angles to a ship's length or keel

a·bed (ə bed') *adv.*, *adj.* in bed

A·bel (ā'bəl) *n.* *Bible* the second son of Adam and Eve: see CAIN

a·be·li·a (ə bēl'yə, ə bē'lē ə) *n.* an ornamental shrub with clusters of fragrant flowers

ab·er·ra·tion (ab'ər ā'shən) *n.* [**< L ab-**, from + *errare*, wander] 1 a deviation from what is right, true, normal, etc. 2 mental derangement or lapse 3 *Optics* the failure of light rays from one point to converge at a single focus —**ab'er·rant** (-ənt) *adj.* —**ab'er·ra'tion·al** *adj.*

a·bet (ə bet') *vt.* **a·bet'ted, a·bet'ting** [**< OFr a-**, to + *beter*, to bait] to urge on or help, esp. in crime —**a·bet'tor** or **a·bet'ter** *n.*

a·bey·ance (ə bā'əns) *n.* [**< OFr a-**, to, at + *bayer*, wait expectantly] temporary suspension, as of an activity or ruling

ab·hor (ab hōr') *vt.* **-horred', -hor'ring**

abhorrent (ə bōd') *vi.*, *vt.* *alt. pt. & pp. of* ABIDE —*n.* a home; residence
a·bol·ish (ə bāl'ish) *vt.* [*< L abolere, destroy*] to do away with; void —**a·bol'ish-ment** *n.*
ab·o·li·tion (ab'ə lish'ən) *n.* 1 complete destruction; annulment 2 [occas. A-] the abolishing of slavery in the U.S. —**ab'o-li'tion-ist** *n.*
a·bide (ə bīd') *vi.* **a·bode'** or **a·bid'ed**, **a·bid'ing** [*< OE ā-, intens. + bīdan, bide*] 1 to remain 2 [Archaic] to reside —*vt.* 1 to await 2 to put up with —**abide by** 1 to live up to (a promise, etc.) 2 to submit to and carry out —**a·bid'ance** *n.*
a·bid'ing *adj.* enduring; lasting
a·bil·i·ty (ə bil'ə tē) *n.*, *pl.* -ties [*< L habilitas*] 1 a being able; power to do 2 talent or skill
-a·bil·i·ty (ə bil'ə tē) [*L -abilitas*] *suffix* a (specified) ability, capacity, or tendency
ab·ject (ab'jekt', ab jekt') *adj.* [*< L ab-, from + jacere, to throw*] 1 miserable; wretched 2 lacking self-respect; degraded —**ab'jectly** *adv.* —**ab·jec'tion** or **ab'ject'ness** *n.*
ab·jure (ab joor', əb-) *vt.* -jured', -jur'ing [*< L ab-, away + jurare, swear*] 1 to give up (rights, allegiance, etc.) on oath; renounce 2 to recant —**ab·ju·ra·tion** (ab'jə rā'shən) *n.* —**ab·jur'a·to'ry** (-ə tōr' ē) *adj.* —**ab·jur'er** *n.*
ab·late (ab lāt') *vt.* -lat'ed, -lat'ing [see fol.] 1 to remove, as by surgery 2 to wear away, burn away, or vaporize —*vi.* to be ablated, as a rocket shield in reentry —**ab·la'tion** *n.*
ab·la·tive (ab'lə tiv) *n.* [*< L ab-, away + ferre, to bear*] *Gram.* the case expressing removal, cause, agency, etc., as in Latin
a·blaze (ə blāz') *adj.* 1 burning brightly 2 greatly excited
a·ble (ā'bəl) *adj.* **a'bler**, **a'blest** [*< L habere, have*] 1 having enough power, skill, etc. to do something 2 skilled; talented 3 *Law* competent —**a'bly** *adv.*
-a·ble (ə bəl) [*< L*] *suffix* 1 that can or will [*perishable*] 2 capable of being —ed [*manageable*] 3 worthy of being —ed [*lovable*] 4 having qualities of [*comfortable*] 5 inclined to [*peaceable*]
a'ble-bod'ied *adj.* healthy and strong
able-bodied seaman a trained or skilled seaman: also **able seaman**
a·bloom (ə blōm') *adj.* in bloom
ab·lu·tion (ab lōo'shən) *n.* [*< L ab-, off + luere, to wash*] [*usually pl.*] a washing of the body, esp. as a religious ceremony
-a·bly (ə blē) *suffix* in a way indicating a (specified) ability, tendency, etc.
ABM *abbrev.* anti-ballistic missile
ab·ne·gate (ab'nə gāt') *vt.* -gat'ed, -gat'ing [*< L ab-, from + negare, deny*] to give up (rights, claims, etc.); renounce —**ab'ne·ga'tion** *n.*
ab·nor·mal (ab nōr'məl) *adj.* not normal, average, or typical; irregular —**ab·nor'mal·ly** *adv.*
ab'nor·mal'i·ty (-mal'ə tē) *n.* 1 an abnormal condition 2 *pl.* -ties an abnormal thing
a·board (ə bōrd') *adv.*, *prep.* on or in (a train, ship, etc.)

a·bode (ə bōd') *vi.*, *vt.* *alt. pt. & pp. of* ABIDE —*n.* a home; residence
a·bol·ish (ə bāl'ish) *vt.* [*< L abolere, destroy*] to do away with; void —**a·bol'ish-ment** *n.*
ab·o·li·tion (ab'ə lish'ən) *n.* 1 complete destruction; annulment 2 [occas. A-] the abolishing of slavery in the U.S. —**ab'o-li'tion-ist** *n.*
a·bom·i·na·ble (ə bām'ə nə bəl) *adj.* [see fol.] 1 disgusting; vile 2 very bad —**a·bom'i·na·bly** *adv.*
a·bom'i·nate' (-nāt') *vt.* -nat'ed, -nat'ing [*< L abominari, regard as an ill omen*] 1 to hate; loathe 2 to dislike very much —**a·bom'i·na'tion** *n.*
ab·o·rig·i·nal (ab'ə rij'ə nəl) *adj.* 1 existing (in a region) from the beginning; first; indigenous 2 of aborigines —*n.* an aborigine
ab'o·rig'i·ne' (-nē') *n.*, *pl.* -nes' [*L < ab-, from + origine, origin*] 1 any of the first known inhabitants of a region 2 [A-] a member of the aboriginal people of Australia
a·born·ing (ə bōr'niŋ) *adv.* while being born or created [the plan died *aborning*]
a·bort (ə bōrt') *vi.* [*< L abortiri, miscarry*] to have a miscarriage —*vt.* 1 to cause to have an abortion 2 to cut short (a flight, etc.), as because of an equipment failure
a·bor·tion (ə bōr'shən) *n.* any expulsion of a fetus before it is able to survive, esp. if induced on purpose —**a·bor'tion·ist** *n.*
a·bor·tive (ə bōrt'iv) *adj.* 1 unsuccessful; fruitless 2 *Biol.* arrested in development
a·bound (ə bound') *vi.* [*< L ab-, away + undare, rise in waves*] 1 to be plentiful 2 to be rich (*in*) or teem (*with*)
a·bout (ə bout') *adv.* [*< OE onbūtan, around*] 1 all around 2 near 3 in an opposite direction 4 approximately 5 [Inf.] nearly [*about ready*] —*adj.* 1 astir [he is up and *about*] 2 likely immediately [*about to leave*] —*prep.* 1 on all sides of 2 near to 3 with 4 concerning
a·bout'·face' *n.* a reversal of position or opinion —*vi.* -faced', -fac'ing to turn or face in the opposite direction
a·bove (ə buv') *adv.* [*OE abūfan*] 1 in a higher place; up 2 earlier (in a book, etc.) 3 higher in rank, etc. —*prep.* 1 over; on top of 2 better or more than [*above the average*] —*adj.* mentioned earlier —*n.* something that is above —**above all** most of all; mainly
a·bove'board' *adv.*, *adj.* without dishonesty or concealment
a·bove'ground' *adj.*, *adv.* 1 above or on the surface of the earth 2 not secret(ly); open(ly)
a·brade (ə brād') *vt.*, *vi.* **a·brad'ed**, **a·brad'ing** [*< L ab-, away + radere, to scrape*] to rub off; scrape away
A·bra·ham (ā'brə ham') *n.* *Bible* the first patriarch of the Hebrews
a·bra·sion (ə brā'zhən) *n.* 1 an abrading 2 an abraded spot
a·bra'sive (-siv) *adj.* 1 causing abrasion 2 aggressively annoying; irritating —*n.*

a substance, as sandpaper, used for grinding, polishing, etc.

a·breast (ə brest') *adv.*, *adj.* 1 side by side 2 informed (of) recent happenings

a·bridge (ə brij') *vt.* **a·bridged'**, **a·bridg'ing** [*< LL abbreviare, abbreviate*] 1 to shorten, lessen, or curtail 2 to shorten (a piece of writing) while keeping the substance —**a·bridg'ment** or **a·bridge'ment** *n.*

a·broad (ə brôd') *adv.* 1 far and wide 2 in circulation; current 3 outdoors 4 to or in foreign lands —**from abroad** from a foreign land

ab·ro·gate (ab'rə gāt') *vt.* **-gat'ed**, **-gat'ing** [*< L ab-, away + rogare, ask*] to cancel or repeal by authority —**ab'ro-ga'tion** *n.* —**ab'ro-ga'tor** *n.*

a·brupt (ə brupt') *adj.* [*< L ab-, off + rumpere, to break*] 1 sudden; unexpected 2 brusque 3 very steep 4 disconnected, as some writing —**a·brupt'ly** *adv.* —**a·brupt'ness** *n.*

ABS *abbrev.* anti-lock braking system

Ab·sa·lom (ab'sə ləm) *n.* Bible David's son who rebelled against him

ab·scess (ab'ses') *n.* [*< L ab(s)-, from + cedere, go*] a swollen area in body tissues; containing pus —*vi.* to form an abscess —**ab'scessed'** *adj.*

ab·scis·sa (ab sis'ə) *n.*, *pl.* **-sas** or **-sae** (-ē) [*< L ab-, from + scindere, to cut*] *Math.* the horizontal distance of a point from a vertical axis

ab·scond (ab skänd', əb-) *vi.* [*< L ab(s)-, from + condere, hide*] to leave hastily and secretly, esp. to escape the law —**ab·scond'er** *n.*

ab·sence (ab'səns) *n.* 1 a being absent 2 the time of this 3 a lack

ab·sent (ab'sənt; *for v.*, ab sent') *adj.* [*< L ab-, away + esse, be*] 1 not present 2 not existing; lacking 3 not attentive —*vt.* to keep (oneself) away —*prep.* in the absence of [*absent* her testimony, our case is weak] —**ab'sent'ly** *adv.*

ab·sen·tee (ab'sən tē') *n.* one who is absent, as from work —*adj.* designating, of, or from one who is absent —**ab'sen·tee'ism** *n.*

absentee ballot a ballot to be marked and sent to a board of elections by a person (absentee voter) unable to be at the polls at election time

ab'sent-mind'ed or **ab'sent-mind'ed** *adj.* 1 not attentive; preoccupied 2 habitually forgetful —**ab'sent-mind'ed-ly** *adv.* —**ab'sent-mind'ed-ness** *n.*

absent without leave *Mil.* absent from duty without official permission

ab·sinthe or **ab·sinth** (ab'sinth') *n.* [*< Gr*] a green, bitter, toxic liqueur

ab·so·lute (ab'sə lōt') *adj.* [*see ABSOLVE*] 1 perfect; complete 2 not mixed; pure 3 not limited [*absolute power*] 4 positive 5 not doubted; real [*absolute truth*] 6 not relative —**ab'so-lute'ly** *adv.*

absolute value the value of a real number, disregarding its positive or negative sign [*the absolute value of -4 or +4 is 4*]

absolute zero the lower limit on physically obtainable temperatures: equal to

-273.16°C or -459.69°F

ab·so·lu·tion (ab'sə lō'shən) *n.* 1 a freeing (from guilt) 2 remission (of sin or penalty for it)

ab·so·lut·ism (ab'sə lō tiz'əm) *n.* government by absolute rule; despotism —**ab'so-lut'ist** *n.*, *adj.*

ab·solve (ab zälv', əb-) *vt.* **-solved'**, **-solv'ing** [*< L ab-, from + solvere, loosen*] 1 to free from guilt, a duty, etc. 2 to give religious absolution to

ab·sorb (ab sôrb', -zôrb'; əb-) *vt.* [*< L ab-, from + sorbere, drink in*] 1 to suck up 2 to interest greatly; engross 3 to assimilate 4 to pay for (costs, etc.) 5 to take in (a shock, etc.) without recoil 6 to take in and not reflect (light or sound) —**ab·sorb'ing** *adj.*

ab·sorb'ent *adj.* capable of absorbing moisture, etc. —*n.* a thing that absorbs —**ab·sorb'en·cy** *n.*

ab·sorp·tion (ab sôrp'shən, -zôrp'-; əb-) *n.* 1 an absorbing or being absorbed 2 great interest —**ab·sorp'tive** *adj.*

ab·stain (ab stān', əb-) *vi.* [*< L ab(s)-, from + tenere, to hold*] to voluntarily do without; refrain (from) —**ab·stain'er** *n.* —**ab·sten'tion** (-sten'shən) *n.*

ab·ste·mi·ous (ab stē'mē əs, əb-) *adj.* [*< L ab(s)-, from + temetum, strong drink*] moderate in eating and drinking; temperate

ab·sti·nence (ab'stə nəns) *n.* an abstaining from some or all food, liquor, etc. —**ab'sti-nent** *adj.*

ab·tract (*for adj.*, ab strakt'; ab'strakt'; *for n. & vt.* 2, ab'strakt'; *for vt.* 1, ab strakt') *adj.* [*< L ab(s)-, from + trahere, to draw*] 1 thought of apart from material objects 2 expressing a quality so thought of 3 theoretical 4 *Art* not representing things realistically —*n.* a summary —*vt.* 1 to take away 2 to summarize —**ab·tract'ly** *adv.* —**ab·tract'ness** *n.*

ab·tract'ed *adj.* preoccupied

ab·strac·tion (ab strak'shən) *n.* 1 an abstracting; removal 2 an abstract idea, thing, etc. 3 mental withdrawal 4 an abstract painting, sculpture, etc.

ab·struse (ab strōs') *adj.* [*< L ab(s)-, away + trudere, to thrust*] hard to understand —**ab·struse'ly** *adv.* —**ab·struse'ness** *n.*

ab·surd (ab sɜrd', -zɜrd'; əb-) *adj.* [*< L ab-, intens. + surdus, dull, insensible*] so unreasonable as to be ridiculous —**ab·surd'i·ty** *n.* —**ab·surd'ly** *adv.*

a·bun·dance (ə bun'dəns) *n.* [*see ABOUND*] a great supply; more than enough —**a·bun'dant** *adj.* —**a·bun'dant-ly** *adv.*

a·buse (ə byōz'; *for n.*, ə byōs') *vt.* **a·bused'**, **a·bus'ing** [*< L ab-, away + uti, to use*] 1 to use wrongly 2 to mistreat, esp. by inflicting physical or sexual harm on 3 to insult; revile —*n.* 1 wrong use 2 mistreatment, esp. by the infliction of physical or sexual harm 3 a corrupt practice 4 insulting language —**a·bu·sive** (ə byō'siv) *adj.* —**a·bu'sive-ly** *adv.*

a·but (ə but') *vi.*, *vt.* **a·but'ted**, **a·**

but'ting [‹ OFr *a-*, to + *bout*, end] to border (*on* or *upon*)

a·but'ment *n.* 1 an abutting 2 a part supporting an arch, bridge, etc.

a·bys·mal (ə biz'məl) *adj.* 1 of or like an abyss; not measurable 2 very bad; wretched —**a·bys'mal·ly** *adv.*

a·byss (ə bis') *n.* [‹ Gr *a-*, without + *byssos*, bottom] 1 a bottomless gulf 2 anything too deep for measurement [*an abyss of shame*]

Ab·ys·sin·i·a (ab'ə sin'ē ə) *former name for ETHIOPIA* —**Ab'ys·sin'i·an** *adj., n.*

ac *abbrev.* acre(s)

Ac *Chem. symbol for actinium*

AC *abbrev.* 1 air conditioning 2 alternating current

-ac (ak, ək) [‹ Gr] *suffix* 1 characteristic of [*elegiac*] 2 relating to [*cardiac*] 3 affected by [*maniac*]

a·ca·cia (ə kā'shə) *n.* [‹ Gr *akē*, thorn] 1 a tree or shrub with yellow or white flower clusters 2 the locust tree

ac·a·dem·ic (ak'ə dem'ik) *adj.* 1 of colleges, universities, etc.; scholastic 2 having to do with the liberal arts rather than technical education 3 formal; pedantic 4 merely theoretical. —**ac'a·dem'i·cal·ly** *adv.*

a·cad·e·mi·cian (ə kad'ə mish'an, ak'ə də-) *n.* a member of an ACADEMY (sense 3)

a·cad·e·my (ə kad'ə mē) *n., pl. -mies* [‹ Gr *akadēmeia*, place where Plato taught] 1 a private secondary school 2 a school for special instruction 3 an association of scholars, writers, etc., for advancing an art or science

a·can·thus (ə kan'thəs) *n., pl. -thus-es* or *-thi'* (-thī', -thē') [‹ Gr *akē*, a point] 1 a plant with lobed, often spiny leaves 2 *Archit.* a representation of these leaves

a cap·pel·la (ä' kə pel'ə) [It, in chapel style] without instrumental accompaniment: said of vocalists or vocal groups: also *sp.* a *cap·pel'la*

A·ca·pul·co (ä'kə pool'kō, ak'ə-) city & seaport in S Mexico, on the Pacific: a winter resort: pop. 593,000

ac·cede (ak sēd') *vi.* -ced'ed, -ced'ing [‹ L *ad-*, to + *cedere*, go, yield] 1 to enter upon the duties (of an office); attain (*to*) 2 to assent; agree (*to*)

ac·cel·er·ate (ak sel'ər āt', ək-) *vt.* -at'ed, -at'ing [‹ L *ad-*, to + *celerare*, hasten] 1 to increase the speed of 2 to cause to happen sooner —*vi.* to go faster —**ac·cel'er·a'tion** *n.*

ac·cel'er·a'tor *n.* that which accelerates something; esp., the foot throttle of a motor vehicle

ac·cent (ak'sent'; *for v., also* ak sent') *n.* [‹ L *ad-*, to + *canere*, sing] 1 emphasis given a spoken syllable or word 2 a mark showing such emphasis or indicating pronunciation 3 a distinguishing manner of pronunciation [*an Irish accent*]; 4 special emphasis or attention 5 *Music, Prosody* rhythmic stress —*vt.* 1 to mark with an accent 2 to emphasize; stress

ac·cen·tu·ate (ak sen'chō āt', ək-) *vt.*

-at'ed, -at'ing to accent; emphasize —**ac·cen'tu·a'tion** *n.*

ac·cept (ak sept', ək-) *vt.* [‹ L *ad-*, to + *capere*, take] 1 to receive, esp. willingly 2 to approve 3 to agree or consent to 4 to believe in 5 to reply "yes" to 6 to agree to pay

ac·cept'a·ble *adj.* worth accepting; satisfactory —**ac·cept'a·bil'i·ty** or **ac·cept'a·ble·ness** *n.* —**ac·cept'a·bly** *adv.*

ac·cept'ance *n.* 1 an accepting 2 approval 3 belief in; assent 4 a promise to pay

ac·cept'ed *adj.* generally regarded as true, proper, etc.; conventional; approved

ac·cess (ak'ses') *n.* [see ACCEDE] 1 approach or means of approach 2 the right to enter, use, etc. 3 an outburst; fit [*an access of anger*] —*vt.* to get data from, or add data to, a database

ac·ces·si·ble (ak ses'ə bəl, ək-) *adj.* 1 that can be approached or entered, esp. easily 2 obtainable 3 easily understood —**ac·ces'si·bil'i·ty** *n.* —**ac·ces'si·bly** *adv.*

ac·ces·sion (ak sesh'an, ək-) *n.* 1 the act of attaining (a throne, power, etc.) 2 assent 3 *a)* increase by addition *b)* an addition

ac·ces·so·ry (ak ses'ər ē, ək-) *adj.* [see ACCEDE] 1 additional; extra 2 helping in an unlawful act —*n., pl. -ries* 1 something extra or complementary 2 one who, though absent, helps another to break the law

ac·ci·dent (ak'sə dənt) *n.* [‹ L *ad-*, to + *cadere*, to fall] 1 an unexpected or unintended happening, as one resulting in injury, loss, etc. 2 chance

ac'ci·den'tal (-dent'l) *adj.* happening by chance —**ac'ci·den'tal·ly** *adv.*

ac'ci·dent-prone *adj.* seemingly inclined to become involved in accidents

ac·claim (ə klām') *vt.* [‹ L *ad-*, to + *clamare*, to cry out] to greet or announce with loud approval or applause; hail —*n.* loud approval

ac·cla·ma·tion (ak'lə mā'shən) *n.* 1 loud applause or approval 2 an approving vote by voice

ac·cli·mate (ak'lə māt', ə klī'mət) *vt., vi.* -mat'ed, -mat'ing [‹ L *ad-*, to + Gr *klima*, region] to accustom or become accustomed to a new climate or environment —**ac'cli·ma'tion** *n.*

ac·cli·ma·tize (ə klī'mə tīz') *vt., vi.* -tized', -tiz'ing ACCLIMATE —**ac·cli'ma-ti·za'tion** *n.*

ac·cliv·i·ty (ə kliv'ə tē) *n., pl. -ties* [‹ L *ad-*, up + *clivus*, hill] an upward slope

ac·co·lade (ak'ə lād') *n.* [‹ L *ad-*, to + *collum*, neck] anything done or given to show great respect, appreciation, etc.

ac·com·mo·date (ə kām'ə dāt') *vt.* -dat'ed, -dat'ing [‹ L *ad-*, to + *com·modare*, to fit] 1 to adapt 2 to do a favor for 3 to have space for

ac·com'mo·dat'ing *adj.* obliging

ac·com'mo·da'tion *n.* 1 adjustment 2 willingness to do favors 3 a help; convenience 4 [*pl.*] *a)* lodgings *b)* traveling space, as in a train

ac·com·pa·ni·ment (ə kum'pə nə mənt,

-nē; often ə kump'nə-, -nē-) *n.* anything that accompanies something else, as an instrumental part supporting a solo voice, etc.

ac-com-pa-ny (ə kum'pə nē; often ə kump'nē) *vt.* -nied, -ny-ing [see AD- & COMPANION] 1 to go with 2 to supplement 3 to play or sing an accompaniment for or to —**ac-com'pa-nist** *n.*

ac-com-plice (ə kām'plis) *n.* [< ME *a* (the article) + LL *complex*, a confederate] a partner in crime

ac-com-plish (ə kām'plish) *vt.* [< L *ad-*, intens. + *complere*, fill up] to succeed in doing; complete

ac-com'plished *adj.* 1 done; completed 2 skilled; expert

ac-com'plish-ment *n.* 1 completion 2 work completed; an achievement 3 a social art or skill: *usually used in pl.*

ac-cord (ə kōrd') *vt.* [< L *ad-*, to + *cor*, heart] 1 to make agree 2 to grant —*vi.* to agree; harmonize (*with*) —*n.* mutual agreement; harmony —*of one's own accord* willingly —*with one accord* all agreeing

ac-cord'ance *n.* agreement; conformity —**ac-cord'ant** *adj.*

ac-cord'ing *adj.* in harmony —**accord-ing** to 1 in agreement with 2 as stated by

ac-cord'ing-ly *adv.* 1 in a fitting and proper way 2 therefore



ACCORDION

ac-cor-di-on (ə kōr'dē ən) *n.* [prob. < It *accordare*, to be in tune] a musical instrument with keys and a bellows, which is pressed to force air through reeds

ac-cost (ə kōst') *vt.* [< L *ad-*, to + *costa*, side] to approach and speak to, esp. in a bold way

ac-count (ə kount') *vt.* [< OFr *a-*, to + *conter*, tell] to judge to be —*vi.* 1 to give a financial reckoning (*to*) 2 to give reasons (*for*) 3 to be the reason (*for*) —*n.* 1 [often *pl.*] a record of business transactions 2 *ab*) CHARGE ACCOUNT 3 a credit customer or client 4 worth; importance 5 an explanation 6 a report —*on account* as partial payment —*on account of* because of —*on no account* under no circumstances —*take into account* to consider

ac-count'a-ble *adj.* responsible; liable —**ac-count'a-bil'i-ty** *n.*

ac-count'ant *n.* one whose work is

accounting

ac-count'ing *n.* the figuring and recording of financial accounts

ac-cou-ter (ə kōot'ər) *vt.* [prob. < L *con-* *suere*; to sew] to outfit; equip

ac-cou-ter-ments or **ac-cou-tre-ments** (ə kōot'ər ments, -kōō'trə-) *pl.n.* 1 clothes 2 equipment

ac-cred-it (ə kred'it) *vt.* [see CREDIT] 1 to authorize; certify 2 to believe in 3 to attribute —**ac-cred'i-ta'tion** *n.*

ac-cre-tion (ə krē'shən) *n.* [< L *ad-*, to + *crescere*, to grow] 1 growth in size, esp. by addition 2 accumulated matter 3 a growing together of parts 4 a part added separately; addition

ac-cru-e (ə krōō') *vi.* -crued', -cru'ing [see prec.] to come as a natural growth or periodic increase, as interest on money —**ac-cru'al** *n.*

acct *abbrev.* account

ac-cul-tur-ate (ə kul'chər āt') *vi.*, *vt.* -at'ed, -at'ing to undergo, or change by, acculturation

ac-cul'tur-a'tion *n.* 1 adaptation to a culture, esp. a new or different one 2 mutual influence of different cultures

ac-cu-mu-late (ə kyōō'myə lāt') *vt.*, *vi.* -lat'ed, -lat'ing [< L *ad-*, to + *cumulare*, to heap] to pile up or collect —**ac-cu'mu-la'tion** *n.* —**ac-cu'mu-la'tive** (-lāt'iv, -lə tiv) *adj.*

ac-cu-ra-cy (ak'yoor ə sē, -yər-) *n.* the quality or state of being accurate; precision

ac'cu-rate (-it) *adj.* [< L *ad-*, to + *cura*, care] 1 careful and exact 2 free from errors; precise —**ac'cu-rate-ly** *adv.* —**ac'cu-rate-ness** *n.*

ac-curs-ed (ə kər'sid, -kurst') *adj.* 1 under a curse 2 damnable Also **ac-curst'** —**ac-curs'ed-ness** *n.*

ac-cu-sa-tion (ak'yōō zā'shən, -yə-) *n.* 1 an accusing or being accused 2 what one is accused of —**ac-cu-sa-to-ry** (ə kyōō'zə tōr'ē) *adj.*

ac-cu-sa-tive (ə kyōō'zə tiv) *n.* [see fol.] *Gram.* the case of the direct object of a verb; also, the objective case in English

ac-cuse (ə kyōōz') *vt.* -cused', -cus'ing [< L *ad-*, to + *causa*, a cause] 1 to blame 2 to bring charges against —**ac-cus'er** *n.*

ac-cus-tom (ə kus'təm) *vt.* to make familiar with something by custom, habit, or use; habituate (*to*)

ac-cus'tomed *adj.* 1 customary; usual 2 habituated (*to*)

AC/DC or **A.C./D.C.** (ā'sē'dē'sē') *adj.* [< *a*(lternating) *c*(urrent) or) *d*(irect) *c*(urrent)] [Slang] bisexual

ace (ās) *n.* [< L *as*, unit] 1 a playing card, etc. with one spot 2 a point, as in tennis, made by a serve one's opponent cannot return 3 an expert, esp. in combat flying —*adj.* [Inf.] first-rate —*vt.* **aced**, **ac'ing** 1 [Slang] to defeat completely: often with *out* 2 [Inf.] to earn a grade of A in, on, etc.

Ace bandage [< Ace, trademark for such a bandage] an elasticized cloth bandage used to provide support, as for a sprain

ace in the hole [Slang] any advantage held in reserve

a-cer-bi-ty (ə sur'bə tē) *n.*, *pl.* **-ties** [**< L** *acerbus*, bitter] 1 sourness 2 sharpness of temper, words, etc. —**a-cer'bic** *adj.*

a-ce-ta-min-o-phen (ə sēt'ə min'ə fən, əs'ə tə-) *n.* a crystalline powder used to lessen fever and pain

ac-et-an-i-lide (as'ət an'ə līd') *n.* [**< ACETIC** + **ANILINE**] a drug used to lessen pain and fever

ac-e-tate (as'i tāt') *n.* 1 a salt or ester of acetic acid 2 something, esp. a fabric, made with an acetate of cellulose

a-ce-tic (ə sēt'ik) *adj.* [**< L** *acetum*, vinegar] of the sharp, sour liquid (acetic acid) found in vinegar

ac-e-tone (as'i tōn') *n.* [see prec.] a colorless, flammable liquid used as a solvent, esp. in making rayon —**ac'e-ton'ic** (-tān'ik) *adj.*

a-cet-y-lene (ə set'ɪ ēn') *n.* a gas used for lighting and, with oxygen, in welding

a-ce-tyl-sal-i-cyl-ic acid (ə sēt'ɪ sal'ə sil'ik) **ASPIRIN**

ache (āk) *vi.* **ached**, **ach'ing** [**< OE** *acan*] 1 to have or give dull, steady pain 2 [Inf.] to yearn —*n.* a dull, continuous pain

a-chene (ā kēn', ə-) *n.* [**< Gr** *a-*, not + *chainein*, to gape] any small, dry fruit with one seed

a-chieve (ə chēv') *vt.* **a-chieved'**, **a-chiev'ing** [**< OFr** *< a-*, to + **L** *caput*, head] 1 to do; accomplish 2 to get by effort —**a-chiev'a-ble** *adj.* —**a-chiev'er** *n.*

a-chieve'ment *n.* 1 an achieving 2 a thing achieved; feat

achievement test a test for measuring a student's mastery of a given subject or skill

A-chil-les (ə kil'ēz') *n.* a Greek hero killed in the Trojan War

Achilles' heel (one's) vulnerable spot

Achilles tendon the tendon connecting the heel to the calf muscles

a-choo (ā chōō') *interj.* used to suggest a sneeze

ach-ro-mat-ic (ak'rə mat'ik; ā'krə-) *adj.* [**< Gr** *a-*, without + *chrōma*, color] refracting white light without breaking it up into its component colors

ach-y (āk'ē) *adj.* **-i-er**, **-i-est** having an ache

ac-id (as'id) *adj.* [**L** *acidus*, sour] 1 sour; sharp; tart 2 of an acid —*n.* 1 a sour substance 2 [Slang] LSD 3 *Chem.* any compound that reacts with a base to form a salt —**a-cid-i-ty** (ə sid'ə tē), *pl.* **-ties**, *n.* —**ac'id-ly** *adv.*

a-cid-i-fy (ə sid'ə fī') *vt.*, *vi.* **-fied'**, **-fy'ing** 1 to make or become sour 2 to change into an acid

ac-i-do-sis (as'ə dō'sis) *n.* a condition in which there is an abnormal retention of acid or loss of alkali in the body

acid rain rain with a high concentration of acids produced by the gases from burning fossil fuels

acid test a crucial, final test

a-cid-u-lous (ə sij'oo ləs) *adj.* 1 somewhat acid or sour 2 sarcastic

-a-cious (ā'shəs) [**< L**] *suffix* inclined to, full of [*tenacious*]

-ac-i-ty (as'ə tē) [**< L**] *suffix* a (specified) characteristic, quality, or tendency [*tenacity*]

ac-knowl-edge (ak nāl'ij, ək-) *vt.* **-edged**, **-edg-ing** [see **KNOWLEDGE**] 1 to admit as true 2 to recognize the authority or claims of 3 to respond to 4 to express thanks for 5 to state that one has received (a letter, etc.) —**ac-knowl'edg-ment** or **ac-knowl'edge-ment** *n.*

ACLU *abbrev.* American Civil Liberties Union

ac-me (ak'mē) *n.* [**Gr** *akmē*, a point, top] the highest point; peak

ac-ne (ak'nē) *n.* [see prec.] a skin disorder usually causing pimples on the face, etc.

ac-o-lyte (ak'ə lit') *n.* [**< Gr** *akolouthos*, follower] 1 one who helps a priest at services, esp. at Mass 2 an attendant; helper

ac-o-nite (ak'ə nīt') *n.* [**< Gr**] a plant with hoodlike flowers

a-corn (ā'kōrn') *n.* [**< OE** *æcern*, nut] the nut of the oak tree

acorn squash a kind of winter squash, acorn-shaped with dark-green skin and yellow flesh

a-cous-tic (ə kōōs'tik) *adj.* [**< Gr** *akouein*, to hear] 1 having to do with hearing or acoustics 2 of or using a musical instrument that is not amplified Also **a-cous'ti-cal** —**a-cous'ti-cal-ly** *adv.*

a-cous'tics (-tiks) *pl.n.* the qualities of a room, etc. that determine how clearly sounds can be heard in it —*n.* the branch of physics dealing with sound

ac-quaint (ə kwānt') *vt.* [**< L** *ad-*, to + *cognoscere*, know] 1 to inform 2 to make familiar (*with*)

ac-quaint'ance *n.* 1 knowledge gotten from personal experience 2 a person whom one knows slightly

ac-qui-esce (ak'wē es') *vi.* **-esced'**, **-esc'ing** [**< L** *ad-*, to + *quiescere*, grow quiet] to consent without enthusiasm: often with *in* —**ac'qui-es'cence** *n.* —**ac'qui-es'cent** *adj.*

ac-quire (ə kwīr') *vt.* **-quired'**, **-quir'ing** [**< L** *ad-*, to + *quaerere*, to seek] 1 to gain by one's own efforts 2 to get as one's own —**ac-quire'ment** *n.*

ac-qui-si-tion (ak'wə zish'an) *n.* 1 an acquiring 2 something acquired

ac-quis-i-tive (ə kwiz'ə tiv) *adj.* eager to acquire (money, etc.); grasping —**ac-quis'i-tive-ness** *n.*

ac-quit (ə kwit') *vt.* **-quit'ted**, **-quit'ting** [**< L** *ad-*, to + *quietare*, to quiet] 1 to release from an obligation, etc. 2 to clear (a person) of a charge 3 to conduct (oneself); behave —**ac-quit'tal** *n.*

a-cre (ā'kər) *n.* [**OE** *æcer*, field] a measure of land, 4,840 sq. yards

a'cre-age *n.* acres collectively

ac-rid (ak'rid) *adj.* [**< L** *acris*, sharp] 1 sharp or bitter to the taste or smell 2

sharp in speech, etc. —**a·crid·i·ty** (ə krid'ə tē) *n.* —**ac'rid·ly** *adv.*

ac·ri·mo·ny (ak'ri mō'nē) *n.*, *pl.* -nies [**<** *L acer*, sharp] bitterness or harshness of manner or speech —**ac'ri·mo'ni·ous** *adj.*

ac·ro·bat (ak'rə bat') *n.* [**<** *Gr akrobatos*, walking on tiptoe] a performer on the trapeze, tightrope, etc.; gymnast —**ac'ro·bat'ic** *adj.*

ac'ro·bat'ics *pl.n.* [also with *sing. v.*] 1 an acrobat's tricks 2 any tricks requiring great skill

ac·ro·nym (ak'rə nim') *n.* [**<** *Gr akros*, at the end + *onyma*, name] a word formed from the first (or first few) letters of several words, as *radar*

ac·ro·pho·bi·a (ak'rō fō'bē ə) *n.* [**<** *Gr akros*, at the top + *PHOBIA*] an abnormal fear of being in high places

A·crop·o·lis (ə krāp'ə lis) [**<** *Gr akros*, at the top + *polis*, city] the fortified hill in Athens on which the Parthenon was built

a·cross (ə krōs') *adv.* 1 crosswise 2 from one side to the other —**prep.** 1 from one side to the other of 2 on or to the other side of 3 into contact with by chance [to come *across* an old friend]

a·cross'·the·board' *adj.* 1 combining win, place, and show, as a bet 2 including or affecting all classes or groups

a·cros·tic (ə krōs'tik) *n.* [**<** *Gr akrostichos* **<** *akros*, at the end + *stichos*, line of verse] a poem, etc. in which certain letters in each line, as the first or last, spell out a word, motto, etc.

a·cryl·ic (ə kril'ik) *adj.* 1 designating any of a group of synthetic fibers used to make fabrics 2 designating any of a group of clear, synthetic resins used to make paints, plastics, etc.

act (akt) *n.* [**<** *L agere*, to do] 1 a thing done 2 an action 3 a law 4 a main division of a drama or opera 5 a short performance, as on a variety show 6 something done merely for show —**vt.** to perform in (a play or part) —**vi.** 1 to perform in a play, movie, etc. 2 to behave 3 to function 4 to have an effect (*on*) 5 to appear to be —**act up** [*Inf.*] to misbehave

ACTH *n.* [*a(dreno)c(ortico)t(ropic) h(ormone)*] a pituitary hormone that acts on the adrenal cortex

act'ing *adj.* temporarily doing the duties of another —*n.* the art of an actor

ac·ti·nide series (ak'tə nīd') a group of radioactive chemical elements from element 89 (actinium) through element 103 (lawrencium)

ac·tin·i·um (ak tin'ē əm) *n.* [**<** *Gr aktis*, ray] a white, radioactive, metallic chemical element

ac·tion (ak'shən) *n.* 1 the doing of something 2 a thing done 3 [*pl.*] behavior 4 the way of working, as of a machine 5 the moving parts, as of a gun 6 the sequence of events, as in a story 7 a lawsuit 8 military combat 9 [*Slang*] activity

ac·ti·vate (ak'tə vāt') *vt.* -vat'ed, -vat'ing 1 to make active 2 to put (a military unit) on active status —**ac'ti·va'tion** *n.* —**ac'ti·va'tor** *n.*

activated carbon a form of highly porous carbon that can adsorb gases, vapors, and colloidal particles: also **activated charcoal**

ac·tive (ak'tiv) *adj.* 1 acting; working 2 causing motion or change 3 lively; agile 4 *Gram.* indicating the voice of a verb whose subject performs the action —**ac'tive·ly** *adv.*

ac'tiv·ism' (-tə viz'əm) *n.* the taking of direct action to achieve a political or social end —**ac'tiv·ist** *adj.*, *n.*

ac·tiv·i·ty (ak tiv'ə tē) *n.*, *pl.* -ties 1 a being active 2 liveliness 3 a specific action or function [*student activities*]

ac·tor (ak'tər) *n.* 1 one who does a thing 2 one who acts in plays, movies, etc. —**ac'tress** (-tris) *fem.n.*

ac·tu·al (ak'chō əl) *adj.* [**<** *L agere*, to do] 1 existing in reality 2 existing at the time —**ac'tu·al·ly** *adv.*

ac'tu·al'i·ty (-al'ə tē) *n.* 1 reality 2 *pl.* -ties an actual thing; fact

ac'tu·al·ize' (-əl īz') *vt.* -ized', -iz'ing 1 to make actual or real 2 to make realistic

ac·tu·ar·y (ak'chō er'ē) *n.*, *pl.* -ies [**<** *L actuarius*, clerk] one who figures insurance risks, premiums, etc. —**ac'tu·ar'i·al** *adj.*

ac·tu·ate (ak'chō āt') *vt.* -at'ed, -at'ing 1 to put into action 2 to cause to take action —**ac'tu·a'tor** *n.*

a·cu·i·ty (ə kyōō'ə tē) *n.* [**<** *L acus*, needle] keenness of thought or vision

a·cu·men (ə kyōō'mən, ak'yə mən) *n.* [**<** *L acuere*, sharpen] keenness of mind; shrewdness

ac·u·punc·ture (ak'yōō punk'chər) *n.* [**<** *L acus*, needle + *PUNCTURE*] the ancient practice, esp. among the Chinese, of piercing parts of the body with needles to treat disease or relieve pain —**ac'u·punc'tur·ist** *n.*

a·cute (ə kyōōt') *adj.* [**<** *L acuere*, sharpen] 1 sharp-pointed 2 keen of mind 3 sensitive [*acute hearing*] 4 severe, as pain 5 severe but not chronic [*an acute disease*] 6 very serious 7 less than 90° [*an acute angle*] —**a·cute'ly** *adv.* —**a·cute'ness** *n.*

acute accent a mark (´) showing primary stress, the quality of a vowel, etc.

-a·cy (ə sē) [**ult.** **<** *Gr*] *suffix* quality, condition, etc. [*supremacy*]

a·cy·clo·vir (ā sī'klō vir') *n.* a synthetic powder used in the treatment of certain viral infections, as herpes

ad (ad) *n.* [*Inf.*] an advertisement

AD or **A.D.** *abbrev.* [**<** *L Anno Domini*, in the year of the Lord] of the Christian era: used with dates

ad- [**<** *L*] *prefix* motion toward, addition to, nearness to: becomes *a-*, *ac-*, *af-*, *ag-*, *al-*, *an-*, etc. before certain consonants

ad·age (ad'ij) *n.* [**<** *L ad-*, to + *aio*, I say] an old saying; proverb

a·da·gio (ə dā'jō, -zhō) *adv.* [**<** *It adagio*, at ease] *Music* slowly —**adj.** slow —*n.*, *pl.* -gios 1 a slow movement in music 2 a slow ballet dance Also written **a·da'gio**, *pl.* -gios

Ad·am (ad'əm) *n.* [Heb < *adam*, a human being] *Bible* the first man

ad·a·mant (ad'ə mənt) *adj.* [< Gr *a-*, not + *daman*, subdue] inflexible; unyielding

Ad·ams (ad'əmz) 1 John 1735-1826; 2d president of the U.S. (1797-1801) 2 John Quin·cy (kwin'zē, -sē) 1767-1848; 6th president of the U.S. (1825-29): son of John

Adam's apple the projection of cartilage in the front of the throat: seen chiefly in men

a·dapt (ə dapt') *vt.* [< L *ad-*, to + *aptare*, to fit] 1 to make suitable, esp. by changing 2 to adjust (oneself) to new circumstances —*vi.* to adjust oneself —**ad·ap·ta·tion** (ad'əp tā'shən) *n.* —**a·dapt'er** or **a·dap'tor** *n.*

a·dapt'a·ble *adj.* able to adjust or be adjusted —**a·dapt'a·bil'i·ty** *n.*

add (ad) *vt.* [< L *ad-*, to + *dare*, to give] 1 to join (*to*) so as to increase 2 to state further 3 to combine (numbers) into a sum —*vi.* 1 to cause an increase (*to*) 2 to find a sum —**add up** to seem reasonable —**add up to** to mean; signify

ADD *abbrev.* attention-deficit disorder

ad·dend (ad'end') *n.* [< fol.] *Math.* a number or quantity to be added to another

ad·den·dum (ə den'dəm) *n., pl. -da* (-də) [L] a thing added, as an appendix

ad·der (ad'ər) *n.* [< OE *nædre*] 1 a poisonous snake of Europe 2 any of various other snakes, some harmless

ad·dict (ə dikt'; *for n.*; ad'ikt) *vt.* [< L *addicere*, give assent] 1 to give (oneself) up to a strong habit: usually in the passive voice [*addicted to heroin*] 2 to make an addict of —*n.* one addicted to a habit, as to using drugs —**ad·dic'tion** *n.* —**ad·dic'tive** *adj.*

Ad·dis A·ba·ba (ad'is ab'ə bæ) capital of Ethiopia: pop. 1,700,000

ad·di·tion (ə dish'ən) *n.* 1 an adding of numbers to get a sum 2 a joining of one thing to another 3 a part added —**in addition** (*to*) besides

ad·di'tion·al *adj.* added; more; extra —**ad·di'tion·al·ly** *adv.*

ad·di·tive (ad'ə tiv) *adj.* of addition —*n.* a substance added in small quantities

ad·dle (ad'l) *vi., vt. -dled, -dling* [< OE *adela*, mud] to make or become confused

ad·dress (ə dres'; *for n.* 2, 3, & 4, also a' dres') *vt.* [< L *dirigere*, to direct] 1 to direct (words) *to* 2 to speak or write *to* 3 to write the destination on (a letter, etc.) 4 to apply (oneself) *to* 5 to deal or cope with —*n.* 1 a speech 2 the place where one lives or receives mail 3 the destination indicated on an envelope,

etc. 4 *Comput.* a) a code identifying the location of an item of information b) a string of characters serving as an e-mail destination or Web location

ad·dress·ee (a'dres ē') *n.* the person to whom mail, etc. is addressed

ad·duce (ə dōs') *vt. -duced', -duc'ing* [< L *ad-*, to + *ducere*, to lead] to give as a reason or proof

-ade (ād) [ult. < L] *suffix* 1 the act of —ing [*blockade*] 2 participant(s) in an action [*brigade*] 3 [after LEMONADE] drink made from [*limeade*]

Ad·e·laide (ad'ə lād') seaport in S Australia: pop. 1,076,000

A·den (ād'n, ād'n), Gulf of gulf of the Arabian Sea, south of Arabia

ad·e·nine (ad'ə nēn') *n.* a purine base contained in the DNA, RNA, and ADP of all tissue

ad·e·noids (ad'n oidz', ad'noidz') *pl.n.* [< Gr *adēn*, gland + *-OID*] lymphoid growths in the throat behind the nose: they can obstruct nasal breathing

a·dept (ə dept'; *for n.* ad'ept') *adj.* [< L *ad-*, to + *apisci*, attain] highly skilled —*n.* ad'ept' an expert —**a·dept'ly** *adv.* —**a·dept'ness** *n.*

ad·e·quate (ad'i kwət) *adj.* [< L *ad-*, to + *aequus*, equal] enough for what is required; sufficient; suitable —**ad'e·qua·cy** (-kwə sē) *n.* —**ad'e·quate·ly** *adv.*

ad·here (ad hir', əd-) *vi. -hered', -her'ing* [< L *ad-*, to + *haerere*, to stick] 1 to stick fast; stay attached 2 to give allegiance or support (*to*) —**ad·her'ence** *n.*

ad·her'ent *n.* a supporter or follower (of a person, cause, etc.)

ad·he·sion (ad hē'zhən, əd-) *n.* 1 a being stuck together 2 body tissues abnormally joined

ad·he'sive (-siv) *adj.* 1 sticking 2 sticky —*n.* an adhesive substance

ad hoc (ad häk') [L, to this] for a specific purpose [*an ad hoc committee*]

a·dieu (ə dyōō', -dōō'; *Fr* à dyö') *interj., n., pl. a·dieus' or a·dieux* (ə dyōō', -dōō'; *Fr* à dyö') [Fr] goodbye

ad in·fi·ni·tum (ad in'fə nīt'əm) [L] endlessly; without limit

a·di·os (a'dē ōs', ä'-; *Sp* ä dyôs') *interj.* [Sp] goodbye

ad·i·pose -(ad'ə pōs') *adj.* [ult. < Gr *aleipha*, fat] of animal fat; fatty

Ad·i·ron·dack Mountains (ad'ə rān'dak') mountain range in NE New York: also **Adirondacks**

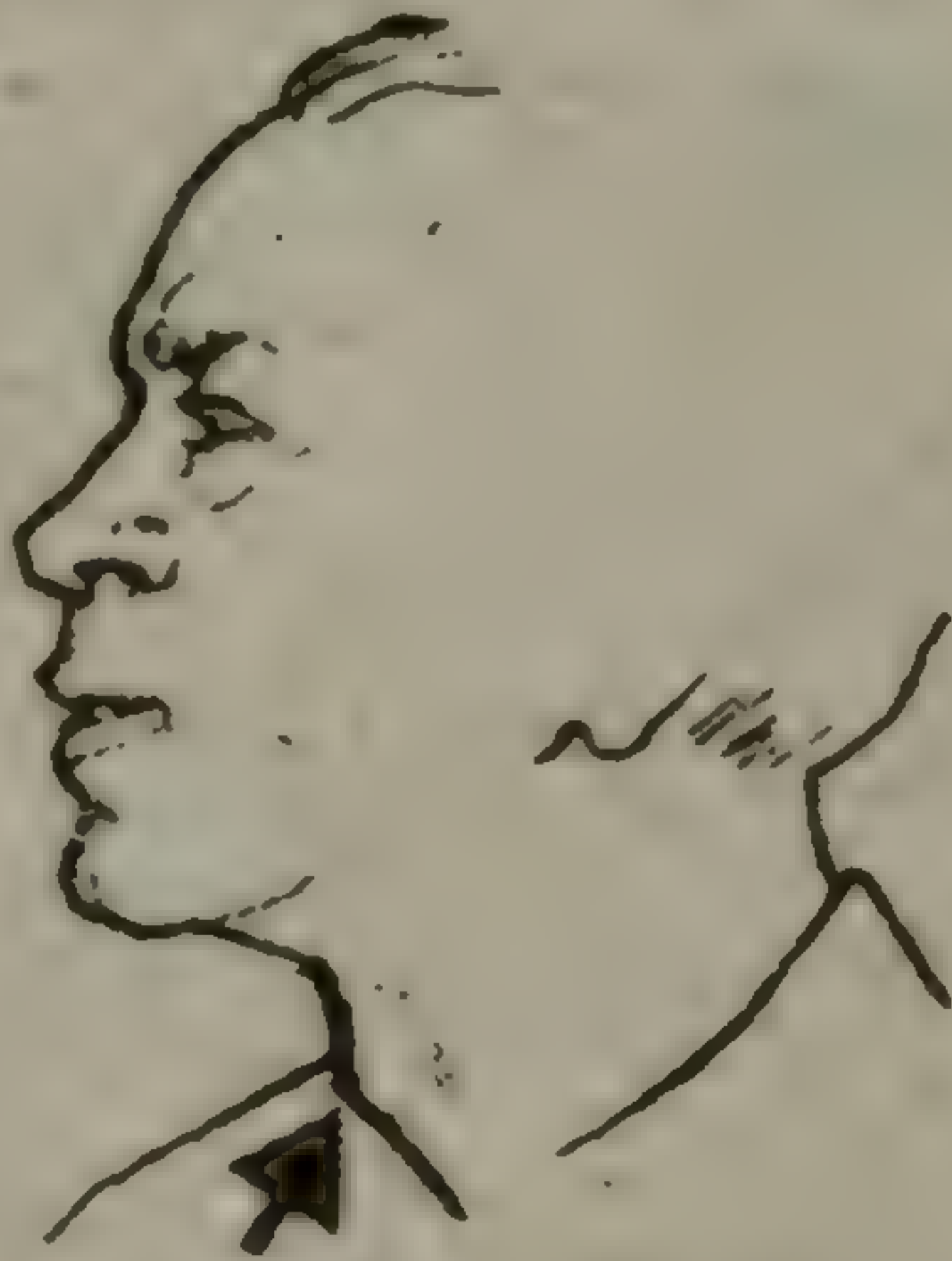
adj *abbrev.* 1 adjective 2 adjustment

ad·ja·cent (ə jā'sənt) *adj.* [< L *ad-*, to + *jacere*, to lie] near or close (*to*); adjoining —**ad·ja'cen·cy** (-sən sē) *n.* —**ad·ja'cent·ly** *adv.*

ad·jec·tive (aj'ik tiv) *n.* [< L *adjacere*, lie near] a word used to modify a noun or other substantive —**ad'jec·ti·val** (-tī'vəl) *adj.* —**ad'jec·ti·val·ly** *adv.*

ad·join (ə join') *vt.* [< L *ad-*, to + *jungere*, to join] to be next to —*vi.* to be in contact —**ad·join'ing** *adj.*

ad·journ (ə jurn') *vt.* [< OFr *a*, at + *jorn*, day] to suspend (a meeting, session, etc.) for a time —*vi.* 1 to close a meeting, etc. for a time 2 [Inf.] to retire (*to*



ADAM'S APPLE

another room, etc.) —**ad-journ'ment** *n.*

ad-judge (ə juj') *vt.* -judged', -judg'ing [*< L ad-, to + judicare, to judge*] 1 to decide by law 2 to declare, order, or award by law

ad-ju-di-cate (ə joo'di kāt') *vt.* -cat'ed, -cat'ing to hear and decide (a case) —*vi.* to serve as a judge (*in* or *on*) —**ad-ju'di-ca'tion** *n.* —**ad-ju'di-ca'tor** *n.* —**ad-ju'di-ca-to'ry** (-kə tōr'ē) *adj.*

ad-junct (ə'junkt') *n.* [*see ADJOIN*] a secondary or nonessential addition —*adj.* in a temporary or part-time position

ad-jure (ə joor') *vt.* -jured', -jur'ing [*< L ad-, to + jurare, to swear*] 1 to charge solemnly under oath 2 to ask earnestly —**ad-ju-ra-tion** (aj'oo rā'shən) *n.*

ad-just (ə just') *vt.* [*< OFr a-, to + joster, to tilt*] 1 to change so as to fit 2 to regulate or set (a watch, etc.) 3 to settle rightly 4 to decide the amount to be paid in settling (an insurance claim) —*vi.* to adapt oneself —**ad-just'a-ble** *adj.* —**ad-just'er** or **ad-jus'tor** *n.* —**ad-just'ment** *n.*

ad-ju-tant (aj'ə tant) *n.* [*< L ad-, to + juvare, to help*] 1 an assistant 2 a military staff officer who assists the commanding officer

ad-lib (ad'lib') [*Inf.*] *vt., vi.* -libbed', -lib'bing [*< L ad libitum, at pleasure*] to improvise (words, etc. not in a prepared script, etc.) —*n.* an ad-libbed remark; also **ad lib** —*adj.* spoken or done extemporaneously —*adv.* extemporaneously; also **ad lib**

adm or **admin** *abbrev.* 1 administration 2 administrative

Adm *abbrev.* admiral

ad'man' *n., pl. -men'* a man whose work is advertising

ad-min-is-ter (ad min'is tər, əd-) *vt.* [*< L ad-, to + ministrare, to serve*] 1 to manage; direct 2 to give out, as punishment 3 to apply (medicine, etc.) 4 to direct the taking of (an oath, etc.)

ad-min'is-trate' (-trāt') *vt.* -trat'ed, -trat'ing to administer; manage

ad-min'is-tra'tion (-trā'shən) *n.* 1 management 2 [*often A-*] the executive officials of a government, etc. and their policies 3 their term of office 4 the administering (*of* punishment, medicine, etc.) —**ad-min'is-tra'tive** (-trāt'iv, -trə tiv) *adj.*

ad-min'is-tra'tor *n.* 1 a person who administers 2 *Law* one appointed to settle an estate

ad-mi-ra-ble (ad'mə rə bəl) *adj.* deserving admiration; excellent —**ad'mi-ra-bly** *adv.*

ad-mi-ral (ad'mə rəl) *n.* [*< Ar 'amīr, leader + 'ālī, high*] 1 the commanding officer of a fleet 2 a naval officer of the highest rank

ad'mi-ral-ty *n., pl. -ties* [*often A-*] the governmental department in charge of naval affairs, as in England

ad-mi-ra-tion (ad'mə rā'shən) *n.* 1 an admiring 2 pleased approval

ad-mire (ad mīr', əd-) *vt.* -mired', -mir'ing [*< L ad-, at + mirari, to wonder*] 1 to regard with wonder and delight 2 to esteem highly —**ad-mir'er** *n.*

ad-mis-si-ble (ad mis'ə bəl, əd-) *adj.* that can be accepted or admitted —**ad-mis'si-bil'i-ty** *n.*

ad-mis-sion (ad mish'ən, əd-) *n.* 1 an admitting or being admitted 2 an entrance fee 3 a conceding, confessing, etc. 4 a thing conceded, confessed, etc.

ad-mit (ad mit', əd-) *vt.* -mit'ted, -mit'ting [*< L ad-, to + mittere, to send*] 1 to permit or entitle to enter or use 2 to allow; leave room for 3 to concede or confess —*vi.* 1 to allow: with *of* 2 to concede or confess (*to*) —**ad-mit'tance** *n.*

ad-mit'ted-ly *adv.* by admission or general agreement

ad-mix-ture (ad miks'chər) *n.* [*< L ad-, to + miscere, to mix*] 1 a mixture 2 a thing added in mixing

ad-mon-ish (ad mən'ish, əd-) *vt.* [*< L ad-, to + monere, to warn*] 1 to warn 2 to reprove mildly 3 to exhort —**ad-mo-ni-tion** (ad'mə nish'ən) *n.* —**ad-mon'i-to'ry** (-i tōr'ē) *adj.*

ad nau-se-am (ad nô'zē əm) [*L*] to the point of disgust

a-do (ə dōo') *n.* fuss; trouble

a-do-be (ə dō'bē) *n.* [*Sp*] 1 unburnt, sun-dried brick 2 clay for making this brick 3 a building of adobe

ad-o-les-cence (ad'ə les'əns) *n.* the time of life between puberty and maturity

ad'o-les'cent *adj.* [*< L ad-, to + alescere, grow up*] of or in adolescence —*n.* a person during adolescence

A-don-is (ə dän'is) *n.* 1 *Gr. Myth.* a young man loved by Aphrodite 2 a handsome young man

a-dopt (ə dəpt') *vt.* [*< L ad-, to + optare, to choose*] 1 to take legally into one's own family and raise as one's own child 2 to take as one's own 3 to choose or accept —**a-dop'tion** *n.*

a-dop-tive (ə dāp'tiv) *adj.* that has become so by adoption

a-dor-a-ble (ə dōr'ə bəl) *adj.* [*Inf.*] delightful; charming —**a-dor'a-bly** *adv.*

ad-o-ra-tion (ad'ə rā'shən) *n.* 1 a worshiping 2 great love or devotion

a-dore (ə dōr') *vt.* -dored', -dor'ing [*< L ad-, to + orare, to speak*] 1 to worship as divine 2 to love greatly 3 [*Inf.*] to like very much

a-dorn (ə dōrn') *vt.* [*< L ad-, to + ornare, fit out*] 1 to be an ornament to 2 to put decorations on —**a-dorn'ment** *n.*

ADP (ā'dē'pē') *n.* [*a(denosine) d(i)p(hosphate)*] a basic unit of nucleic acids vital to the energy processes of all living cells

a-dre-nal (ə drē'nəl) *adj.* [*AD- + RENAL*] 1 near the kidneys 2 of two ductless glands (adrenal glands) just above the kidneys

a-dren-a-line (ə dren'ə lin) *n.* [*< Adrenalin, a trademark*] a hormone secreted by the adrenal glands, which increases endurance, strength, etc.

A-dri-at-ic (Sea) (ā'drē at'ik) sea between Italy and the Balkan Peninsula

a-drift (ə drift') *adv., adj.* floating with-

out mooring or direction

a·droit (ə droit') *adj.* [*< Fr à, to + L dirigere, lay straight*] skillful and clever —**a·droit'ly** *adv.* —**a·droit'ness** *n.*

ad·sorb (ad sôrb', -zôrb') *vt.* [*< AD- + L sorbere, drink in*] to collect (a gas, etc.) in condensed form on a surface —**ad·sorb'ent** *adj.* —**ad·sorp'tion** (-sôrp'shən, -zôrp'-) *n.*

ad·u·late (ə'jə lāt', -jə-) *vt.* -lat'ed, -lat'ing [*< L adulari, fawn upon*] to admire intensely —**ad·u·la'tion** *n.* —**ad·u·la·to'ry** (-lə tōr'ē) *adj.*

a·dult (ə dult', ad'ult') *adj.* [*see ADOLESCENT*] 1 grown up; mature 2 for adult people —*n.* a mature person, animal, or plant —**a·dult'hood** *n.*

a·dul·ter·ate (ə dul'tər āt') *vt.* -at'ed, -at'ing [*< L ad-, to + alter, other*] to make inferior, impure, etc. by adding an improper substance —**a·dul'ter·a'tion** *n.*

a·dul·ter·y (ə dul'tər ē) *n., pl. -ies* sexual intercourse between a married person and another who is not that person's spouse —**a·dul'ter·er** *n.* —**a·dul'ter·ess** *fem.n.* —**a·dul'ter·ous** *adj.*

ad·um·brate (ad um'brāt', ad'am brāt') *vt.* -brat'ed, -brat'ing [*< L ad-, to + umbra, shade*] 1 to outline vaguely 2 to foreshadow —**ad·um·bra'tion** *n.*

adv *abbrev.* 1 adverb 2 advertisement

ad·vance (ad vans', əd-) *vt.* -vanced', -vanc'ing [*< L ab-, from + ante, before*] 1 to bring forward 2 to promote 3 to suggest 4 to raise the rate of 5 to lend —*vi.* 1 to go forward 2 to improve; progress 3 to rise in rank, price, etc. —*n.* 1 a moving forward 2 an improvement 3 a rise in value 4 [*pl.*] approaches to get favor 5 a payment made before it is due —*adj.* 1 in front [*advance guard*] 2 beforehand —*in advance* 1 in front 2 ahead of time —**ad·vance'ment** *n.*

ad·vanced' *adj.* 1 in front 2 far on in life; old 3 ahead or higher in progress, price, etc.

advance man a person hired to travel in advance of a theatrical company, political candidate, etc. to arrange for publicity, appearances, etc.

ad·van·tage (ad vant'ij, əd-) *n.* [*< L ab- + ante: see ADVANCE*] 1 superiority 2 a favorable circumstance, event, etc. 3 gain or benefit —*vt.* -taged, -tag'ing to be a benefit or aid to —**take advantage of** 1 to use for one's own benefit 2 to impose upon —**ad·van·ta·geous** (ad'van tā'jəs) *adj.*

Ad·vent (ad'vent') *n.* [*< L ad-, to + venire, to come*] 1 *Christianity* the period including the four Sundays just before Christmas 2 [*a-*] a coming or arrival

ad·ven·ti·tious (ad'ven tish'əs) *adj.* [*see prec.*] not inherent; accidental

ad·ven·ture (ad ven'chər, əd-) *n.* [*see ADVENT*] 1 a daring, hazardous undertaking 2 an unusual, stirring, often romantic experience —*vi.* -tured, -tur'ing to engage in adventure —**ad·ven'tur·ous** or **ad·ven'ture·some** *adj.* —

ad·ven'tur·ous·ly *adv.*

ad·ven'tur·er *n.* 1 one who has or looks for adventures 2 one who seeks to become rich, etc. by dubious schemes —**ad·ven'tur·ess** *fem.n.*

ad·verb (ad'vərb') *n.* [*< L ad-, to + verbum, word*] a word used to modify a verb, an adjective, or another adverb, by expressing time, place, manner, degree, etc. —**ad·ver'bi·al** *adj.* —**ad·ver'bi·al·ly** *adv.*

ad·ver·sar·i·al (ad'vər ser'ē əl) *adj.* of or relating to adversaries, as in a lawsuit **ad'ver·sar'y** *n., pl. -ies* [*see ADVERT*] an opponent; foe

ad·verse (ad vər's', ad'vərs') *adj.* [*see ADVERT*] 1 opposed 2 unfavorable —**ad·verse'ly** *adv.*

ad·ver·si·ty (ad vər'sə tē) *n.* 1 misfortune; wretched or troubled state 2 *pl. -ties* a calamity; disaster

ad·vert (ad vər't') *vi.* [*< L ad-, to + vertere, to turn*] to call attention (*to*)

ad·ver·tise (ad'vər tīz') *vt.* -tised', -tis'ing [*see prec.*] to describe or praise publicly, usually so as to promote sales —*vi.* 1 to call public attention to things for sale 2 to ask (*for*) by public notice —**ad'ver·tis'er** *n.* —**ad'ver·tis'ing** *n.*

ad·ver·tise·ment (ad'vər tīz'mənt, əd vər'tīz-) *n.* a public notice, usually paid for

ad·ver·to·ri·al (ad'vər tōr'ē əl) *n.* [*ADVERT(TISE) + (EDI)TORIAL*] an advertisement, as in a magazine, made to resemble an article or editorial

ad·vice (ad vīs', əd-) *n.* [*< L ad-, at + videre, to look*] opinion given as to what to do; counsel

ad·vis·a·ble (ad vīz'ə bəl, əd-) *adj.* wise; sensible —**ad·vis'a·bil'i·ty** *n.*

ad·vise (ad vīz', əd-) *vt.* -vised', -vis'ing [*< ML advisum, advice*] 1 to give advice to; counsel 2 to offer as advice 3 to notify; inform —**ad·vi'sor** or **ad·vis'er** *n.*

ad·vis'ed·ly (-id lē) *adv.* deliberately

ad·vise'ment *n.* careful consideration —**take under advisement** to consider carefully

ad·vi·so·ry (ad vī'zə rē, əd-) *adj.* advising or empowered to advise —*n., pl. -ries* a report, esp. about weather conditions

ad·vo·cate (ad'və kit; *for v.*, -kāt') *n.* [*< L ad-, to + vocare, to call*] one who speaks or writes in support of another or a cause —*vt.* -cat'ed, -cat'ing to be an advocate of —**ad'vo·ca·cy** (-kə sē) *n.*

advt. *abbrev.* advertisement

adz or **adze** (adz) *n.* [*< OE adesa*] an axlike tool for trimming and smoothing wood

Ae·ge·an (Sea) (ē jē'an) sea between Greece and Turkey

ae·gis (ē'jis) *n.* [*< Gr aigis, shield of Zeus*] 1 protection 2 sponsorship

Ae·ne·as (i nē'əs) *n.* *Gr. & Rom. Myth.* a Trojan whose adventures are told in a poem (the **Ae·ne'id**) by Virgil

ae·on (ē'an, ē'an') *n. alt. sp. of EON*

aer·ate (er'āt', ā'ər āt') *vt.* -at'ed, -at'ing [*AER(O)- + -ATE¹*] 1 to expose to air 2 to charge (liquid) with gas, as to make

soda water —**aer-a'tion** *n.* —**aer'a'tor** *n.*

aer-i-al (er'ē əl) *adj.* [**<** Gr *aēr*, air + **-AL**] 1 of, in, or by air 2 unreal; imaginary 3 of aircraft or flying —*n.* a radio or TV antenna

aer'i-al-ist *n.* an acrobat on a trapeze, high wire, etc.

a-er-ie (ā'ər ē, ē'rē, er'ē, ir'ē) *n.* [**prob.** **<** L *ager*, field] 1 the high nest of an eagle or other bird of prey 2 a house or stronghold on a high place

aero- [**<** Gr *aēr*, air] *combining form* 1 air 2 aircraft or flying 3 gas, gases Also **aer-** or **aeri-**

aer-o-bat-ics (er'ō bat'iks) *pl.n.* [**prec.** + (**ACRO**)**BATICS**] stunts done while flying an aircraft

aer-o-bic (er ō'bik) *adj.* [**<** Gr *aēr*, air + *bios*, life] 1 able to live or grow only where free oxygen is present 2 of exercise, as running, that conditions the heart and lungs by increasing efficient intake of oxygen by the body —*n.* [*pl.*, with *sing.* or *pl. v.*] aerobic exercises

aer-o-dy-nam-ics (er'ō dī nam'iks) *n.* the branch of mechanics dealing with forces exerted by air or other gases in motion —*pl.n.* the characteristics of a vehicle's body that affect its efficient movement through the air —**aer'o-dy-nam'ic** *adj.* —**aer'o-dy-nam'i-cal-ly** *adv.*

aer-o-nau-tics (er'ə nôt'iks) *n.* the science of making and flying aircraft —**aer'o-nau'ti-cal** *adj.*

aer-o-sol (er'ə sôl', -säl') *n.* [**AERO-** + **SOL(UTION)**] a suspension of insoluble particles in a gas —*adj.* of or from a container in which gas under pressure dispenses liquid spray

aer-o-space (er'ō spās') *n.* the earth's atmosphere and the space outside it —*adj.* of aerospace, or of missiles, etc. for flight in aerospace

Aes-chy-lus (es'ki ləs) 525?-456 B.C.; Gr. writer of tragedies

Ae-sop (ē'səp, -səp') Gr. fable writer: supposedly lived 6th c. B.C.

aes-thete (es'thēt') *n.* [**<** Gr *aisthētēs*, one who perceives] a person who is or pretends to be highly sensitive to art and beauty

aes-thet-ic (es thet'ik) *adj.* 1 of aesthetics 2 of beauty 3 sensitive to art and beauty

aes-thet'ics *n.* the philosophy of art and beauty

a-far (ə fār') *adv.* [Archaic] at or to a distance —**from afar** from a distance

af-fa-ble (af'ə bəl) *adj.* [**<** L *ad-*, to + *fari*, to speak] pleasant; friendly —**af-fa-bil'i-ty** *n.* —**af'fa-bly** *adv.*

af-fair (ə fer') *n.* [**<** L *ad-*, to + *facere*, to do] 1 any matter, event, etc. 2 [*pl.*] matters of business 3 an event arousing public controversy 4 a social gathering 5 a sexual relationship outside of marriage

af-fect (ə fekt'; *for vt.* 3 & 4, usually a fekt'; *for n.*, af'ekt') *vt.* [**<** L *ad-*, to + *facere*, to do] 1 to have an effect on; influence 2 to stir the emotions of 3 to like to use, wear, etc. 4 to make a pretense of being, feeling, etc. —*n.* an emotion or emotional response

af-fec-ta-tion (af'ek tā'shən) *n.* 1 a pretending to like, have, etc. 2 artificial behavior meant to impress others

af-fect-ed (ə fekt'id; *for* 4 & 5, usually a-) *adj.* 1 afflicted 2 influenced 3 emotionally moved 4 assumed for effect 5 full of affectation

af-fect-ing (ə fekt'in) *adj.* emotionally moving

af-fec-tion (ə fek'shən) *n.* fond or tender feeling

af-fec'tion-ate *adj.* tender and loving —**af-fec'tion-ate-ly** *adv.*

af-fect-less (af'ekt'lis) *adj.* lacking emotion

af-fer-ent (af'ər ənt) *adj.* [**<** L *ad-*, to + *ferre*, to carry] bringing inward to a central part, as nerves

af-fi-da-vit (af'ə dā'vit) *n.* [**ML**, he has made oath] a written statement made under oath

af-fil-i-ate (ə fil'ē āt'; *for n.*, usually, -it) *vt.* -at'ed, -at'ing [**<** **ML** *affiliare*, adopt as a son] 1 to take in as a member 2 to associate (oneself) with a group, etc. —*vi.* to join —*n.* an affiliated person, club, etc. —**af-fil'i-a'tion** *n.*

af-fin-i-ty (ə fin'i tē) *n.*, *pl.* -ties [**<** L *affinis*, adjacent] 1 relationship by marriage 2 close relationship 3 a likeness implying common origin 4 a natural liking or sympathy

af-firm (ə fərm') *vt.* [**<** L *ad-*, to + *firmare*, make firm] 1 to declare positively; assert 2 to confirm; ratify —*vi.* *Law* to make a formal statement, but not under oath —**af-fir-ma-tion** (af'ər mǎ'shən) *n.*

af-firm-a-tive (ə fərm'ə tiv) *adj.* affirming; answering "yes" —*n.* 1 an expression of assent 2 the side upholding the proposition being debated

affirmative action a plan to offset past discrimination in employing or educating women, blacks, etc.

af-fix (ə fiks'; *for n.* af'iks') *vt.* [**<** L *ad-*, to + *figere*, fasten] 1 to fasten; attach 2 to add at the end —*n.* 1 a thing affixed 2 a prefix or suffix

af-flict (ə flikt') *vt.* [**<** L *ad-*, to + *fligere*, to strike] to cause pain or suffering to; distress greatly

af-flic-tion (ə flik'shən) *n.* 1 pain; suffering 2 any cause of suffering

af-flu-ence (af'loo əns) *n.* [**<** L *ad-*, to + *fluere*, to flow] riches; wealth

af'flu-ent *adj.* wealthy; rich —**af'flu-ent-ly** *adv.*

af-ford (ə fôrd') *vt.* [**<** OE *geforthian*, to advance] 1 to spare (money, time, etc.) without much inconvenience 2 to give; yield [*it affords pleasure*] —**af-ford'a-bil'i-ty** *n.* —**af-ford'a-ble** *adj.*

af-fray (ə frā') *n.* [**<** OFr *esfraer*, frighten] a noisy brawl

af-front (ə frunt') *vt.* [**<** **ML** *ad-*, to + *frons*, forehead] to insult openly —*n.* an open insult

Af-ghan (af'gan', -gən) *n.* 1 a native of Afghanistan 2 [a-] a soft blanket or shawl, crocheted or knitted

Af-ghan-i-stan (af gan'i stan') country

in SC Asia, east of Iran: 251,773 sq. mi.; pop. 15,551,000

a·fi·cio·na·do (ə fish'ə nă'dō) *n.* [Sp] a devotee of some sport, art, etc.

a·field (ə fēld') *adv.* 1 in or to the field 2 away (from home); astray

a·fire (ə fir') *adv., adj.* on fire

a·flame (ə flām') *adv., adj.* 1 in flames 2 glowing

AFL-CIO *abbrev.* American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations

a·float (ə flōt') *adj., adv.* 1 floating 2 at sea 3 flooded 4 current 5 free of debt, etc.

a·flut·ter (ə flut'ər) *adv., adj.* in a flutter

a·foot (ə foot') *adv.* 1 on foot 2 in progress

a·fore·men·tioned (ə fôr'men'chənd) *adj.* mentioned before

a·fore'said' *adj.* spoken of before

a·fore'thought' *adj.* thought out beforehand; premeditated

a·foul (ə foul') *adv., adj.* in a collision or a tangle —*run (or fall) afoul of* to get into trouble with

a·fraid (ə frād') *adj.* [see AFFRAY] feeling frightened: followed by *of, that*, or an infinitive: often used informally to indicate regret [*I'm afraid I must go*]

Af·ri·ca (af'ri kə) second largest continent, south of Europe: c. 11,700,000 sq. mi.; pop. c. 705,000,000 —**Af'ri·can** *adj., n.*

Af'ri·can·A·mer'i·can *n.* a black American of African ancestry —*adj.* of African-Americans, their culture, etc.

Af·ri·can·ized bee (af'ri kən izd') a hybrid of African and European bees, known for superior honey production; killer bee

African violet a tropical African plant with violet, white, or pinkish flowers and hairy leaves, often grown as a houseplant

Af·ri·kaans (af'ri kăns', -kănz') *n.* [Afrik < Afrika, Africa] an official language of South Africa, based on Dutch

Af·ro (af'rō') *n., pl. -ros'* a full, bushy hair style, as worn by some African-Americans

Afro- [< L *Afer*, an African] *combining form* African, African and

Af'ro·A·mer'i·can *n., adj.* AFRICAN-AMERICAN

aft (aft) *adv.* [< OE *æftan*] at, near, or toward the stern of a ship or rear of an aircraft

af·ter (af'tər) *adv.* [OE *æfter*] 1 behind 2 later —*prep.* 1 behind 2 later than 3 in search of 4 as a result of 5 in spite of [*after all I've said, he's still going*] 6 lower in rank or order than 7 in imitation of 8 for [*named after Lincoln*] —*conj.* following the time when —*adj.* 1 next; later 2 nearer the rear

af'ter·birth' *n.* the placenta and membranes expelled after the birth of offspring

af'ter·burn'er *n.* a device attached to some engines for burning or utilizing exhaust gases

af'ter·ef·fect' *n.* an effect coming later, or as a secondary result

af'ter·life' *n.* a life after death

af'ter·math' (-math') *n.* [< AFTER + OE *mæth*, cutting of grass] a result, esp. an unpleasant one

af·ter·noon (af'tər nōon'; *for adj., also af'tər nōon'*) *n.* the time from noon to evening —*adj.* in the afternoon

af'ter·tax' *n.* occurring or remaining after the payment of taxes

af'ter·thought' *n.* 1 an idea, explanation, part, etc. coming or added later 2 a thought coming too late to be apt

af'ter·ward *adv.* later; subsequently: also **af'ter·wards**

Ag [L *argentum*] *Chem. symbol for silver*

a·gain' (ə gen') *adv.* [< OE *on-*, up to + *gegn*, direct] 1 back into a former condition 2 once more 3 besides 4 on the other hand —*again and again* often; repeatedly —*as much again* twice as much

a·gainst (ə genst') *prep.* [see *prec.*] 1 in opposition to 2 toward so as to strike [*thrown against the wall*] 3 in contact with 4 in preparation for 5 as a charge on

Ag·a·mem·non (ag'ə mem'nän') *n.* *Gr. Myth.* commander of the Greek army in the Trojan War

a·gape (ə gāp') *adv., adj.* [A-¹ + GAPE] wide open

a·gar (ä'gər) *n.* [Malay] a gelatinous product made from seaweed, used in bacterial cultures: also **a'gar-a'gar**

ag·ate (ag'it) *n.* [< Gr *achatēs*] a hard, semiprecious stone with striped or clouded coloring

a·ga·ve (ə gä'vē) *n.* [< proper name in Gr. myth] a desert plant with thick, fleshy leaves

agcy *abbrev.* agency

age (āj) *n.* [< L *aetas*] 1 the length of time that a person or thing has existed 2 a stage of life 3 old age 4 a historical or geological period 5 [often *pl.*] [Inf.] a long time —*vi., vt.* **aged, ag'ing** or **age'ing** to grow or make old, ripe, mature, etc. —*of age* having reached the age when one is qualified for full legal rights

-agé (ij) [< LL *-aticum*] *suffix* 1 act, state, or result of [*usage*] 2 amount or number of [*acreage*] 3 cost of [*postage*] 4 place of [*steerage*]

a·ged (ā'jid; *for* 2 ājd) *adj.* 1 old 2 of the age of —*the aged* old people

age·ism (āj'iz'əm) *n.* [AGE + (RAC)ISM] discrimination against older people

age'less *adj.* 1 seemingly not growing older 2 eternal

a·gen·cy (ā'jən sē) *n., pl. -cies* [< L *agere*, to act] 1 action; power 2 means 3 a firm, etc. empowered to act for another 4 an administrative government division 5 an organization that offers assistance [*a social agency*]

a·gen·da (ə jen'də) *n., pl. -das* [< L *agere*, to do] a list of things to be dealt with, as at a meeting

a·gent (ā'jənt) *n.* [< L *agere*, to do] 1 an active force or substance producing an

effect 2 a person, firm, etc. empowered to act for another 3 a representative of a government agency

Agent Orange [military code name, from *orange*-colored containers] a highly toxic defoliant

age'-old' adj. ancient

ag·er·a·tum (aj'ər āt'am) *n.* [*< Gr agēr-atos*, not growing old] a plant of the composite family with small, thick heads of bluish flowers

ag·glom·er·ate (ə glām'ər āt'; *for adj. & n.*, -it) *vt.*, *vi.* -at'ed, -at'ing [*< L ad-*, to + *glomerare*, form into a ball] to gather into a mass or ball —*adj.* gathered into a mass or ball —*n.* a jumbled heap, mass, etc.

ag·glu·ti·nate (ə glōt'n it; *for v.*, -āt') *adj.* [*< L ad-*, to + *gluten*, glue] stuck together —*vt.*, *vi.* -nat'ed, -nat'ing to stick together, as with glue —**ag·glu·ti·na'tion** *n.*

ag·gran·dize (ə gran'diz'; *also*, ag'rən-) *vt.* -dized', -diz'ing [*< Fr a-*, to + *grandir*, to increase] to make greater, more powerful, richer, etc. —**ag·gran·dize·ment** (ə gran'diz mənt, ag'rən diz'-) *n.*

ag·gra·vate (ag'rə vāt') *vt.* -vat'ed, -vat'ing [*< L ad-*, to + *gravis*, heavy] 1 to make worse 2 [Inf.] to annoy; vex —**ag·gra·va'tion** *n.*

ag'gra·vat'ed adj. *Law* designating a grave form of a specified offense

ag·gre·gate (ag'rə git; *for v.*, -gāt') *adj.* [*< L ad-*, to + *grex*, a herd] total —*n.* a mass of distinct things gathered into a total or whole —*vt.* -gat'ed, -gat'ing 1 to gather into a mass 2 to total —**ag·gre·ga'tion** *n.*

ag·gres·sion (ə gresh'an) *n.* [*< L aggredi*, to attack] 1 an unprovoked attack or warlike act 2 a being aggressive —**ag·gres'sor** *n.*

ag·gres·sive (ə gres'iv) *adj.* 1 boldly hostile; quarrelsome 2 bold and active; enterprising —**ag·gres'sive·ly** *adv.* —**ag·gres'sive·ness** *n.*

ag·grieve (ə grēv') *vt.* -grieved', -griev'ing [see AGGRAVATE] to cause grief or injury to; offend

a·ghast (ə gast') *adj.* [*< OE gast*, ghost] feeling great horror or dismay

ag·ile (aj'al) *adj.* [*< L agere*, to act] quick and easy of movement —**ag'ile·ly** *adv.* —**a·gil·i·ty** (ə jil'ə tē) *n.*

ag·i·tate (aj'i tāt') *vt.* -tat'ed, -tat'ing [*< L agere*, to act] 1 to stir up or shake up 2 to excite the feelings of —*vi.* to stir up people so as to produce changes —**ag'i·ta'tion** *n.* —**ag'i·ta'tor** *n.*

a·gleam (ə glēm') *adv.*, *adj.* gleaming

a·glit·ter (ə glit'ər) *adv.*, *adj.* glittering

a·glow (ə glō') *adv.*, *adj.* in a glow (of color or emotion)

ag·nos·tic (ag nās'tik) *n.* [*< Gr a-*, not + base of *gignōskein*, know] one who believes it impossible to know if God exists —*adj.* of an agnostic —**ag·nos'ti·cism'** (-ti siz'am) *n.*

a·go (ə gō') *adj.* [*< OE agan*, pass away] gone by; past [years ago] —*adv.* in the past [long ago]

a·gog (ə gäg') *adv.*, *adj.* [*< OFr en*, in +

gogue, joke] with eager anticipation or excitement

ag·o·nize (ag'ə nīz') *vi.* -nized', -niz'ing 1 to struggle 2 to be in agony —*vt.* to torture

ag·o·ny (ag'ə nē) *n.*, *pl.* -nies [*< Gr agōn*, a contest] 1 great mental or physical pain 2 death pangs 3 a strong outburst (of emotion)

ag·o·ra·pho·bi·a (ag'ər əfō'bē ə) *n.* [*< Gr agora*, marketplace + -PHOBIA] an abnormal fear of being in public places —**ag'o·ra·pho'bic** *adj.*, *n.* -s (-ə)

a·grar·i·an (ə grer'ē ən) *adj.* [*< L ager*, field] 1 of land or the ownership of land 2 of agriculture

a·gree (ə grē') *vi.* -greed', -gree'ing [*< L ad*, to + *gratus*, pleasing] 1 to consent (to) 2 to be in accord 3 to be of the same opinion (with) 4 to arrive at an understanding (about prices, etc.) 5 to be suitable, healthful, etc.: followed by *with* —*vt.* to grant [I agree that it's true]

a·gree'a·ble *adj.* 1 pleasing or pleasant 2 willing to consent 3 conformable 4 acceptable —**a·gree'a·bly** *adv.*

a·gree'ment *n.* 1 an agreeing 2 an understanding between people, countries, etc. 3 a contract

agri- *combining form* agriculture: also **agro-**

ag·ri·busi·ness (ag'rə biz'nis) *n.* [see *fol.* + BUSINESS] farming and associated businesses and industries

ag·ri·cul·ture (ag'ri kul'chər) *n.* [*< L ager*, field + *cultura*, cultivation] the work of producing crops and raising livestock; farming —**ag'ri·cul'tur·al** *adj.* —**ag'ri·cul'tur·al·ly** *adv.* —**ag'ri·cul'tur·ist** *n.*

a·gron·o·my (ə grän'ə mē) *n.* [*< Gr agros*, field + *nemein*, govern] the science and economics of crop production —**a·gron'o·mist** *n.*

a·ground (ə ground') *adv.*, *adj.* on or onto the shore, a reef, etc.

a·gue (ā'gyōō') *n.* [*< ML (febris) acuta*, violent (fever)] a fever, usually malarial, marked by chills

ah (ä, ô) *interj.* used to express delight, surprise, pain, etc.

a·ha (ä hä') *interj.* used to express triumph, surprise, satisfaction, etc.

a·head (ə hed') *adv.*, *adj.* 1 in or to the front 2 forward; onward 3 in advance 4 winning or profiting —**get ahead** to advance financially, etc.

a·hem (ə hem') *interj.* used to get someone's attention, etc.

-a·hol·ic (ə hōl'ik, -hāl'-) *combining form* one preoccupied with (something specified)

a·hoy (ə hoi') *interj.* used in hailing [ship ahoy!]

AI *abbrev.* artificial intelligence

aid (ād) *vt.*, *vi.* [*< L ad-*, to + *juvare*, to help] to help; assist —*n.* 1 help or assistance 2 a helper

aide (ād) *n.* [Fr] 1 an assistant 2 an aide-de-camp

aide-de-camp or **aid-de-camp** (ād'də

kamp') *n.*, *pl.* aides'- or aids'- [Fr] a military officer serving as an assistant to a superior

AIDS (ădz) *n.* [A(cquired) I(mmune) D(eficiency) S(yndrome)] a condition of deficiency of certain leukocytes, resulting in infections, cancer, neural degeneration, etc.: see HIV

ai-grette or **ai-gret** (ā gret', ā'gret') *n.* [see EGRET] a bunch of the long, white, showy plumes of the egret

ail (āl) *vt.* [OE *eglian*, to trouble] to cause pain and trouble to —*vi.* to be in poor health

ai-le-ron (ā'lə rān') *n.* [Fr < L *ala*, wing] a pilot-controlled airfoil at the trailing edge of an airplane wing, for controlling rolling

ail-ment (āl'mənt) *n.* a mild illness

aim (ām) *vi.*, *vt.* [< L *ad-*, to + *aestimare*, to estimate] 1 to direct (a weapon, blow, etc.) so as to hit 2 to direct (one's efforts) 3 to intend —*n.* 1 an aiming 2 the ability to hit a target 3 intention — take aim to aim a weapon, etc.

aim'less *adj.* having no purpose — **aim'less-ly** *adv.* — **aim'less-ness** *n.*

ain't (ānt) [< *amn't*, contr. of *am not*] *contr.* [Inf.] *am not*: also a dialectal or nonstandard contraction for *is not*, *are not*, *has not*, and *have not*

ai-o-li or **ai-o-li** (ī ō'lē) *n.* [ult. < L *allium*, garlic + *oleum*, oil] a mayonnaise containing crushed raw garlic

air (er) *n.* [< Gr *aēr*] 1 the invisible mixture of gases surrounding the earth 2 *a)* a breeze; wind *b)* fresh air 3 an outward appearance [an *air* of dignity] 4 general mood 5 [*pl.*] affected, superior manners 6 public expression 7 AIR CONDITIONING 8 a song or tune —*adj.* of or by aircraft —*vt.* 1 to let air into 2 to publicize 3 to broadcast —*vi.* to be broadcast —in the air current or prevalent —on (or off) the air that is (or is not) broadcasting —up in the air not settled

air bag a bag that inflates instantly within an automobile in a collision, to protect riders from being thrown forward

air base a base for military aircraft

air'borne' *adj.* 1 carried by or through the air 2 aloft or flying

air brake a brake operated by the action of compressed air on a piston

air'brush' *n.* an atomizer worked by compressed air and used for spraying on paint, etc.: also **air brush** —*vt.* to spray or modify with an airbrush

air'bus' *n.* an extremely large passenger airplane, esp. for short trips

air conditioning a method of keeping air humidity and temperature at desired levels in buildings, cars, etc. — **air'-con-di-tion** *vt.* — **air conditioner**

air'-cooled' *adj.* cooled by having air passed over, into, or through it

air'craft' *n.*, *pl.* -craft any machine for traveling through the air

aircraft carrier a warship with a large, flat deck for carrying aircraft

air'drop' *n.* the dropping of supplies, troops, etc. from an aircraft in flight — **air'drop'** *vt.*

Aire-dale (er'dāl') *n.* [after *Airedale*, valley in England] a large terrier with a wiry coat

air'fare' *n.* fare for transportation on a commercial airplane

air'field' *n.* a field where aircraft can take off and land

air'foil' *n.* a wing, rudder, etc. of an aircraft

air force the aviation branch of a country's armed forces

air'freight' *n.* cargo transported by air —*vt.* to transport or send by airfreight

air guitar the imagined guitar of someone pretending to play music, using movements typical of actual playing

air gun a gun or gunlike device operated by compressed air

air'head' *n.* [Slang] a silly, ignorant person

air lane a route for travel by air; airway

air'lift' *n.* a system of transporting troops, supplies, etc. by aircraft —*vt.* to transport by airlift

air'line' *n.* a system or company for moving freight and passengers by aircraft —*adj.* of or on an airline

air'lin'er *n.* a large airline-operated aircraft for carrying passengers

air lock an airtight compartment, with adjustable air pressure, between places of unequal air pressure

air'mail' *n.* mail transported by air; esp., in the U.S., mail going overseas by air: also *sp.* **air mail** —*adj.* of or for mail sent by air —*vt.* to send (mail) by air

air'man (-mən) *n.*, *pl.* -men (-mən) 1 an aviator 2 an enlisted person in the U.S. Air Force

air mass *Meteorol.* a huge, uniform body of air having the properties of its place of origin

air mattress a pad filled with air, used as a mattress for camping, etc.

air'plane' *n.* a motor-driven or jet-propelled aircraft kept aloft by the forces of air upon its wings

air'play' *n.* the playing of a recording over radio or TV

air pocket an atmospheric condition that causes an aircraft to make a sudden, short drop while in flight

air'port' *n.* a place where aircraft can land and take off, usually with facilities for repair, etc.

air power the total capacity of a nation for air war

air pressure the pressure of the atmosphere or of compressed air

air raid an attack by aircraft, esp. bombers

air rifle a rifle operated by compressed air

air'ship' *n.* a self-propelled, steerable aircraft that is lighter than air

air'sick' *adj.* nauseated because of air travel — **air'sick'ness** *n.*

air'space' *n.* the space above a nation over which it can claim jurisdiction

air'strike' *n.* an attack made by aircraft

air'strip' n. a temporary airfield

air'tight' adj. 1 too tight for air or gas to enter or escape 2 having no weaknesses [*an airtight alibi*]

air'time' n. *Radio & TV* the period of time during which a program, commercial, etc. may be broadcast: also **air time**

air'waves' pl.n. the medium through which radio signals are transmitted

air'way' n. AIR LANE

air-y (er'ē) **adj.** -i-er, -i-est 1 of air 2 open to the air; breezy 3 unsubstantial as air 4 light as air; graceful 5 light-hearted 6 affectedly nonchalant —**air'i-ly adv.** —**air'i-ness n.**

aisle (īl) **n.** [*< L ala, wing*] a passageway, as between sections of seats in rows

a-jar (ə jār') **adv., adj.** [*OE cier, a turn*] slightly open, as a door

AK Alaska

aka (ā'kā'ā') **abbrev.** also known as: used before an alias: also **a.k.a., a k a**

a-kim-bo (ə kim'bō) **adv., adj.** [*< ON keng, bent + bogi, a bow*] with hands on hips and elbows bent outward [*with arms akimbo*]

a-kin (ə kin') **adj.** 1 of one kin; related 2 similar

Ak-ron (ak'rən) city in N Ohio: pop. 223,000

Al *Chem. symbol for aluminum*

-al (əl, 1) [*< L*] **suffix** 1 of, like, or suitable for [*theatrical*] 2 the act or process of ___ing [*rehearsal*]

à la or **a la** (ä'lə, -lä) [*Fr*] in the manner or style of

Al-a-bam-a (al'ə bam'ə) Southern state of the SE U.S.: 50,750 sq. mi.; pop. 4,041,000; cap. Montgomery: abbrev. **AL** —**Al-a-bam'i-an** or **Al-a-bam'an adj., n.**

al-a-bas-ter (al'ə bas'tər) **n.** [*< Gr alabastros, perfume vase*] a translucent, whitish variety of gypsum, used for statues, vases, etc.

a la carte (ä'lə kärt') [*Fr*] with a separate price for each item on the menu

a-lac-ri-ty (ə lak'rə tē) **n.** [*< L alacer, lively*] eager willingness, often with quick, lively action

A-lad-din (ə lad'n) **n.** a boy in *The Arabian Nights* who finds a magic lamp

à la king (ä'lə kiŋ') in a cream sauce containing mushrooms, pimentos, etc.

Al-a-mo (al'ə mō') Franciscan mission at San Antonio, Texas: scene of a massacre of Texans by Mexican troops (1836)

a la mode (al'ə mōd') [*< Fr*] 1 in fashion 2 served in a certain style, as pie with ice cream Also **à la mode**

a-lar (ä'lər) **adj.** [*< L ala, a wing*] 1 of a wing 2 having wings

a-larm (ə lärm') **n.** [*< It all'arme, to arms*] 1 [Archaic] a sudden call to arms 2 a warning of danger 3 a mechanism that warns of danger, arouses from sleep, etc. 4 fear caused by danger —**vt.** 1 to warn of danger 2 to frighten

alarm clock a clock that can be set to buzz, flash a light, etc. at a given time, as to awaken a person

a-larm'ing adj. frightening

a-larm'ist n. one who spreads alarming rumors, exaggerated reports of danger, etc. —**adj.** of an alarmist

a-las (ə las') **interj.** an exclamation of sorrow, pity, etc.

A-las-ka (ə las'kə) state of the U.S. in NW North America: 570,374 sq. mi.; pop. 550,000; cap. Juneau: abbrev. **AK** —**A-las'kan adj., n.**

alb (alb) **n.** [*< L albus, white*] a white robe worn by a priest at Mass

al-ba-core (al'bə kôr') **n.** [*< Ar al, the + buko, young camel*] a tuna with unusually long pectoral fins

Al-ba-ni-a (al bā'nē ə) country in the W Balkan Peninsula: 11,101 sq. mi.; pop. 3,185,000 —**Al-ba'ni-an adj., n.**

Al-ba-ny (ôl'bə nē) capital of New York, on the Hudson: pop. 101,000

al-ba-tross (al'bə trôs') **n.** [*< Sp < Ar al qādūs, a scoop*] 1 a large, web-footed sea bird 2 a burden

al-be-it (ôl bē'it) **conj.** [*ME al be it, al(though) it be*] although

Al-ber-ta (al burt'ə) province of SW Canada: 255,285 sq. mi.; pop. 2,697,000; cap. Edmonton: abbrev. **AB**

al-bi-no (al bi'nō) **n., pl. -nos** [*< L albus, white*] a person, animal, or plant lacking normal coloration: human albinos have white skin, whitish hair, and pink eyes

al-bum (al'bəm) **n.** [*< L albus, white*] 1 a book with blank pages for mounting pictures, stamps, etc. 2 one or more compact discs, LPs, etc. packaged in a holder

al-bu-men (al byōō'mən) **n.** [*L < albus, white*] 1 the white of an egg 2 the nutritive protein in seeds, etc. 3 **ALBUMIN**

al-bu-min (al byōō'min) **n.** [*see prec.*] a water-soluble protein found in milk, egg, blood, vegetable tissues, etc. —**al-bu'mi-nous adj.**

Al-bu-quer-que (al'bə kur'kē) city in central New Mexico: pop. 385,000

al-che-my (al'kə mē) **n.** [*< Ar < Gr chēmeia; infl. by Gr cheein, pour*] the chemistry of the Middle Ages, the chief aim of which was to change base metals into gold —**al'che-mist n.**

al-co-hol (al'kə hōl') **n.** [*< Ar alkuhl, antimony powder*] 1 a colorless, volatile, pungent liquid, used in various forms as a fuel, as an intoxicating ingredient in fermented liquors, etc. 2 any such intoxicating liquor

al'co-hol'ic adj. 1 of alcohol 2 suffering from alcoholism —**n.** one who has chronic alcoholism

al'co-hol'ism' n. the habitual excessive drinking of alcoholic liquor, or a resulting diseased condition

al-cove (al'kōv') **n.** [*< Ar al, the + qubba, an arch*] a recessed section of a room

al-der (ôl'dər) **n.** [*OE alor*] a small tree or shrub of the birch family

al-der-man (ôl'dər mən) **n., pl. -men** (-mən) [*< OE eald, old + man*] in some U.S. cities, a municipal officer representing a certain district or ward —

al'der-man'ic (-man'ik) *adj.*

ale (āl) *n.* [OE *ealu*] a fermented drink of malt and hops, like beer

a·le·a·to·ry (ā'lē ə tōr'ē) *adj.* [< L *aleatorius*, of gambling < *alea*, chance] depending on chance or luck

a·lem·bic (ə lem'bik) *n.* [< Ar *al-anbīq* < Gr *ambix*, a cup] 1 an apparatus formerly used for distilling 2 anything that purifies

a·lert (ə lurt') *adj.* [< L *erigere*, to erect] 1 watchful; vigilant 2 active; nimble — *n.* a warning signal; alarm — *vt.* 1 to warn to be ready, etc. 2 to make aware of [alert them to their duties] — *on the alert* vigilant — **a·lert'ly** *adv.* — **a·lert'ness** *n.*

A·leu·tian Islands (ə lōō'shən) chain of U.S. islands off the SW tip of Alaska — **A·leu'tian** *adj., n.*

ale·wife (āl'wif') *n., pl. -wives'* [< ?] a NW Atlantic fish resembling the herring, used for food and in fertilizers

Al·ex·an·der the Great (al'ig zan'dər) 356-323 B.C.; military conqueror: king of Macedonia (336-323)

Al'ex·an'dri·a (-drē ə) seaport in N Egypt: pop. 2,319,000

al·fal·fa (al fal'fə) *n.* [Sp < Ar *al-fisfiṣa*, fodder] a plant of the pea family, used for fodder and pasture and as a cover crop

Al·fred the Great (al'frəd) A.D. 849-899; Anglo-Saxon king (871-899)

al·fres·co (al fres'kō, āl-) *adv.* [It < *al*, in the + *fresco*, cool] outdoors — *adj.* outdoor Also *al fresco*

al·gae (al'jē) *pl.n., sing. al'ga* (-gə) [pl. of L *alga*, seaweed] a group of simple organisms, one-celled or many-celled, containing chlorophyll and found in water or damp places

al·ge·bra (al'jə brə) *n.* [< Ar *al*, the + *jabara*, to reunite] a mathematical system using symbols, esp. letters, to generalize certain arithmetical operations and relationships — **al'ge·bra'ic** (-brā'ik) *adj.* — **al'ge·bra'i·cal·ly** *adv.*

Al·ge·ri·a (al jir'ē ə) country in N Africa: 919,595 sq. mi.; pop. 22,972,000 — **Al·ge'ri·an** *adj., n.*

-al·gia (al'jə) [< Gr *algos*] combining form pain [*neuralgia*]

Al·giers (al jirz') seaport & capital of Algeria: pop. 1,688,000

Al·gon·qui·an (al gāŋ'kē ən, -kwē-) *adj.* designating or of a widespread family of North American Indian languages — *n.* this family of languages

al·go·rithm (al'gə rith'əm) *n.* [ult. < Ar] 1 any systematic method of solving a certain kind of mathematical problem 2 *Comput.* a set of instructions with a limited number of steps for solving a problem

a·li·as (ā'lē əs) *n., pl. -as-es* [L < *alius*, other] an assumed name — *adv.* otherwise named [Bell *alias* Jones]

A·li Ba·ba (ā'lē bā'bə, al'ə bab'ə) in *The Arabian Nights*, a poor man who finds the treasure of forty thieves

al·i·bi (al'ə bī') *n., pl. -bis'* [L < *alius ibi*,

elsewhere] 1 *Law* the plea or fact that an accused person was elsewhere than at the scene of the crime 2 [Inf.] an excuse — *vi., vt. -bied', -bi'ing* [Inf.] to offer an excuse (for)

al·ien (āl'yən, āl'ē ən) *adj.* [< L *alius*, other] 1 foreign 2 not natural; strange 3 opposed or repugnant [beliefs *alien* to mine] 4 of aliens — *n.* 1 a foreigner 2 a foreign-born resident who is not naturalized 3 a hypothetical being from outer space

al'ien·a·ble (-ə bəl) *adj.* capable of being transferred to a new owner

al'ien·ate' (-āt') *vt. -at'ed, -at'ing* 1 to transfer the ownership of (property) to another 2 to make unfriendly or withdrawn 3 to cause a transference of (affection) — **al'ien·a'tion** *n.*

a·light¹ (ə lit') *vi. a·light'ed or a·lit', a·light'ing* [ME *alihtan*] 1 to get down or off; dismount 2 to come down after flight

a·light² (ə lit') *adj.* lighted up; burning

a·lign (ə līn') *vt.* [< Fr *a-*, to + *ligne*, LINE¹] 1 to bring into a straight line 2 to bring (components or parts) into adjustment 3 to bring into agreement, etc. — *vi.* to line up — **a·lign'ment** *n.*

a·like (ə lik') *adj.* [< OE *gēlic*] like one another — *adv.* 1 similarly 2 equally

al·i·ment (al'ə mənt) *n.* [< L *alere*, nourish] nourishment; food

al'i·men'ta·ry (-men'tə rē, -men'trē) *adj.* 1 of food or nutrition 2 nourishing

alimentary canal (or **tract**) the passage in the body (from the mouth to the anus) that food goes through

al·i·mo·ny (al'ə mō'nē) *n.* [< L *alere*, nourish] money a court orders paid to a person by that person's legally separated or divorced spouse

a·line (ə līn') *vt., vi. a·lined', a·lin'ing* ALIGN — **a·line'ment** *n.*

a·lit (ə lit') *vi. alt. pt. & pp. of ALIGHT¹*

a·live (ə liv') *adj.* [< OE *on*, in + *līfe*, life] 1 having life; living 2 in existence, operation, etc. 3 lively; alert — **alive to** aware of — **alive with** teeming with

a·li·yah or a·li·ya (ā'lē yā') *n.* [< Heb, lit., ascent] immigration by Jews to Israel

al·ka·li (al'kə lī') *n., pl. -lies' or -lis'* [< Ar *al-qili*, the ashes of a certain plant] 1 any base, as soda, that is soluble in water and gives off ions in solution 2 a mineral salt, etc. that can neutralize acids

al'ka·line (-līn, -līn') *adj.* of or like an alkali — **al'ka·lin'i·ty** (-līn'ə tē) *n.*

al'ka·lize' (-līz') *vt. -lized', -liz'ing* to make alkaline — **al'ka·li·za'tion** *n.*

al'ka·loid' (-loid') *n.* a bitter, alkaline substance, such as caffeine, morphine, etc., containing nitrogen

al·kyd (al'kid) *n.* [ult. < ALKALI + (ACI)D] a synthetic resin used in paints, varnishes, etc.: also **alkyd resin**

all (ôl) *adj.* [OE *eal*] 1 the whole quantity of [all the gold] 2 every one of [all men] 3 the greatest possible [in all sincerity] 4 any [beyond all doubt] 5 alone; only [all work and no play] —

pron. 1 [with pl. v.] everyone 2 everything 3 every part or bit —**n.** 1 one's whole property, effort, etc. [gave his *all*] 2 a totality; whole —**adv.** 1 wholly; entirely [*all* worn out] 2 apiece [a score of two *all*] —**after all** nevertheless —**all in** [Inf.] very tired —**all in all** 1 considering everything 2 as a whole —**all out** completely —**all the better** (or worse) so much the better (or worse) —**all the same** 1 nevertheless 2 unimportant —**at all** 1 in the least 2 in any way 3 under any considerations —**in all** altogether

all- combining form 1 wholly, entirely [*all-American*] 2 for every [*all-purpose*] 3 of everything [*all-inclusive*]

Al-lah (al'ə, ă'lə) **n.** [[< Ar *al*, the + *ilāh*, god]] the Muslim name for God

all'-A-mer'i-can **adj.** representative of the U.S. as a whole, or chosen as the best in the U.S. —**n.** 1 a hypothetical football team, etc. made up of U.S. college players voted the best of the year 2 a player on such a team

all'-a-round' **adj.** having many abilities, talents, or uses; versatile

al-lay (a lā', ə-) **vt.** -layed', -lay'ing [[< OE *a-*, down + *lecgan*, lay]] 1 to calm; quiet 2 to relieve (pain, etc.)

all'-clear' **n.** a siren or other signal that an air raid or alert is over

al-le-ga-tion (al'ə gā'shən) **n.** an assertion, esp. one without proof or to be proved

al-lege (ə lej') **vt.** -leged', -leg'ing [[< L *ex-*, out of + *litigare*, to dispute]] 1 to declare or assert, esp. without proof 2 to offer as an excuse

al-le-ged (ə lejd', ə lej'id) **adj.** 1 declared, but without proof 2 so-called [*alleged* friends] —**al-leg'ed-ly** **adv.**

Al-le-ghe-ny Mountains (al'ə gā'nē) mountain range in Pennsylvania, Maryland, West Virginia, & Virginia: also **Al-le-ghe'nies**

al-le-giance (ə lē'jəns) **n.** [[< OFr *liege*, liege]] 1 the duty of being loyal to one's ruler, country, etc. 2 loyalty; devotion, as to a cause

al-le-go-ry (al'ə gôr'ē) **n.**, **pl.** -ries [[< Gr *allos*, other + *agoreuein*, speak in assembly]] a story in which people, things, and events have a symbolic meaning, often instructive —**al-le-gor'i-cal** **adj.** —**al-le-gor'i-cal-ly** **adv.** —**al-le-go'rist** **n.**

al-le-gret-to (al'ə gret'ō) **adj.**, **adv.** [[It, dim. of *allegro*]] *Music* moderately fast: also written **al-le-gret'to**

al-le-gro (ə le'grō, -lā'-) **adj.**, **adv.** [[It]] *Music* fast: also written **al-le'gro'**

al-le-le (ə lēl') **n.** [[< Gr *allēlōn*, of one another]] a gene transferring inherited characteristics

al-le-lu-ia (al'ə lōō'yə, ă'lə-) **interj.**, **n.** [[LL(Eccles.)]] HALLELUJAH

al-ler-gen (al'ər jən) **n.** [[Ger]] a substance inducing an allergic reaction —**al-ler-gen'ic** (-jen'ik) **adj.**

al-ler-gic (ə lər'jik) **adj.** 1 of, caused by, or having an allergy 2 [Inf.] averse (to)

al-ler-gist (al'ər jist) **n.** a doctor who specializes in treating allergies

al-ler-gy (al'ər jē) **n.**, **pl.** -gies [[Ger < Gr *allos*, other + *ergon*, work]] 1 a hypersensitivity to a specific substance (as a food, pollen, dust, etc.) or condition (as heat or cold) 2 an aversion

al-le-vi-ate (ə lē'vē āt') **vt.** -at'ed, -at'ing [[< L *ad-*, to + *levis*, light]] 1 to lessen or relieve (pain, etc.) 2 to decrease (poverty, etc.) —**al-le'vi-a'tion** **n.**

al-ley (al'ē) **n.**, **pl.** -leys [[< OFr *aler*, go]] 1 a narrow street between or behind buildings 2 a bowling lane

alley cat a homeless, mongrel cat

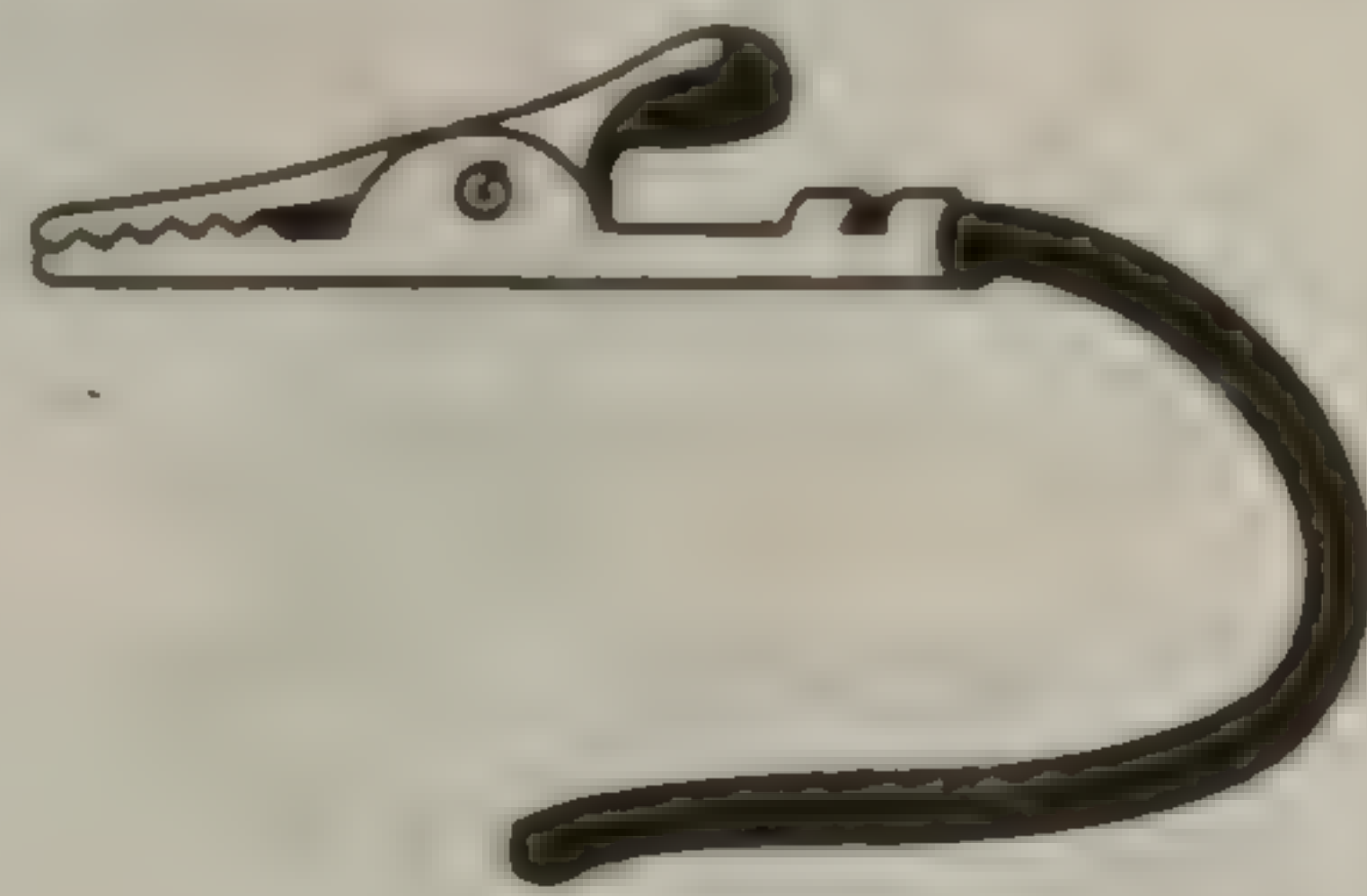
al'ley-way' **n.** an alley between buildings

all'-fired' **adj.**, **adv.** [[< *hell-fired*]] [Slang] extreme(ly)

al-li-ance (ə lī'əns) **n.** [[see ALLY]] 1 an allying or close association, as of nations for a common objective, families by marriage, etc. 2 an agreement for this 3 the countries, groups, etc. in such association

al-lied (ə lid', al'id') **adj.** 1 united by kinship, treaty, etc. 2 closely related

al-li-ga-tor (al'ə gāt'ər) **n.** [[< Sp *el*, the + L *lacerta*, lizard]] a large reptile of the U.S. and China, like the crocodile but with a shorter, broader snout



ALLIGATOR CLIP

alligator clip a fastening device with spring-loaded jaws for making an electrical connection

alligator pear AVOCADO

all'-im-por'tant **adj.** highly important; necessary; essential

all'-in-clu'sive **adj.** including everything; comprehensive

al-lit-er-a-tion (ə lit'ər ā'shən) **n.** [[< L *ad-*, to + *littera*, letter]] repetition of an initial sound in two or more words of a phrase —**al-lit'er-a'tive** (-āt'iv, -ə tiv) **adj.**

al-lo-cate (al'ə kāt') **vt.** -cat'ed, -cat'ing [[< L *ad-*, to + *locus*, a place]] 1 to set apart for a specific purpose 2 to distribute or allot —**al'lo-ca'tion** **n.**

al-lot (ə lāt') **vt.** -lot'ted, -lot'ting [[< OFr *a-*, to + *lot*, lot]] 1 to distribute in arbitrary shares; apportion 2 to assign as one's share —**al-lot'ment** **n.**

all'-out' **adj.** complete or wholehearted

all'o-ver **adj.** over the whole surface

al-low (ə lou') **vt.** [[see ALLOCATE]] 1 to permit; let [I'm not *allowed* to go] 2 to let have [she *allowed* herself no sweets] 3 to acknowledge as valid 4 to provide (a certain amount), as for shrinkage, waste, etc. —**allow for** to leave room, time, etc. for —**al-low'a-ble** **adj.**

al-low'ance (-əns) **n.** 1 an allowing 2 something allowed 3 an amount of money, food, etc. given regularly to a

child, soldier, etc. 4 a reduction in price, as for a trade-in —**make allowance(s) for** to excuse because of mitigating factors

al·loy (al'oi; *also, and for v. usually, ə loi'*) *n.* [*< L ad-, to + ligare, to bind*] 1 a substance that is a mixture of two or more metals 2 something that debases another thing when mixed with it —*vt.* to make into an alloy

all'-purpose *adj.* useful in many ways

all right 1 satisfactory; adequate 2 unhurt; safe 3 correct 4 yes; very well 5 [*Inf.*] certainly

all'-round' *adj., adv. var. of ALL-AROUND*

all·spice (ôl'spîs') *n.* a spice, that seems to combine the flavors of several spices, made from the berry of a West Indian tree of the myrtle family

all'-star' *adj.* 1 made up of outstanding or star performers 2 of or characteristic of an all-star event —*n.* a member of an all-star team

all'-time' *adj.* unsurpassed up to the present time

al·lude (ə lōd') *vi.* -lud'ed, -lud'ing [*L alludere, to jest*] to refer indirectly (*to*)

al·lure (ə loor') *vt., vi.* -lured', -lur'ing [*< OFr a-, to + loirer, to lure*] to tempt with something desirable; attract; entice —*n.* fascination; charm —**al·lure'ment** *n.* —**al·lur·ing** (ə loor'in, a-) *adj.*

al·lu·sion (ə lōō'zhən) *n.* 1 an alluding 2 an indirect or casual reference

al·lu'sive (-siv) *adj.* 1 containing an allusion 2 full of allusions —**al·lu'sive·ly** *adv.* —**al·lu'sive·ness** *n.*

al·lu·vi·um (ə lōō'vē əm) *n., pl. -vi·ums or -vi·a* (-vē ə) [*< L ad-, to + luere, to wash*] sand, clay, etc. deposited by moving water —**al·lu'vi·al** *adj.*

al·ly (ə lî'; *also, and for n. usually, al'î*) *vt., vi.* -lied', -ly'ing [*< L ad-, to + ligare, to bind*] 1 to unite or join for a specific purpose 2 to relate by similarity of structure, etc. —*n., pl. -lies* a country or person joined with another for a common purpose

al·ma ma·ter (al'mə māt'ər, əl'-) [*L, fostering mother*] 1 the college or school that one attended 2 its anthem

al·ma·nac (ôl'mə nak', əl'-) *n.* [*< c. 5th-c. Gr almenichiaka, calendar*] 1 a calendar with astronomical data, weather forecasts, etc. 2 a book published annually, with statistical information

al·might·y (ôl mīt'ē) *adj.* all-powerful — the Almighty God

al·mond (ă'mənd, əl'-, ôl'-; əm'ənd) *n.* [*< Gr amygdalē*] 1 the edible, nutlike kernel of a peachlike fruit 2 the tree it grows on 3 the light-tan color of its shell —*adj.* shaped like an almond; oval and pointed at one or both ends

al·most (ôl'möst', ôl möst') *adv.* very nearly; all but

alms (ămz) *n., pl. alms* [*< Gr eleos, mercy*] money, food, etc. given to poor people —**alms'giver** *n.*

alms'house' *n.* 1 [Archaic] a poorhouse

2 [Brit.] a privately endowed home for the poor

al·oe (al'ō') *n., pl. -oes'* [*< Gr aloē*] an African plant of the lily family

a·loft (ə lôft') *adv.* [*ME < o, on + loft, loft*] 1 high up 2 in the air; flying 3 high above the deck of a ship

a·lo·ha (ä lô'hə, -hə'; ə lô'ə) *n., interj.* [*Haw, love*] 1 hello 2 goodbye

a·lone (ə lôn') *adj., adv.* [*ME < al, all + one, one*] 1 apart from anything or anyone else 2 without any other person 3 only 4 without equal —**let alone** 1 to refrain from interfering with: also **leave alone** 2 not to speak of [*we hadn't a dime, let alone a dollar*]

a·long (ə lôn') *prep.* [*< OE and-, over against + -lang, long*] 1 on or beside the length of 2 in conformity with —*adv.* 1 lengthwise 2 progressively forward 3 together (*with*) 4 with one [*take me along*] 5 advanced [*well along in years*] —**all along** from the beginning —**be along** [*Inf.*] to come or arrive —**get along** 1 to advance 2 to manage 3 to survive 4 to be compatible

a·long'shore' *adv.* near or beside the shore

a·long'side' *adv.* at or by the side; side by side —*prep.* beside —**alongside of** at the side of

a·loof (ə lōof') *adv.* [*< a-, on & Du loef, windward side*] at a distance but in view —*adj.* cool and reserved [*an aloof manner*] —**a·loof'ness** *n.*

a·loud (ə loud') *adv.* 1 loudly 2 with the normal voice; not silently

alp (alp) *n.* [*after ALPS*] a high mountain

al·pac·a (al pak'ə) *n.* [*< AmInd*] 1 a South American llama 2 its silky wool, or cloth woven from it

al·pha (al'fə) *n.* 1 the first letter of the Greek alphabet (A, α) 2 the beginning of anything —*adj.* of the dominant member of a group

al'pha·bet' (-bet') *n.* [*< Gr alpha & beta, first two letters of the Gr alphabet*] the letters used in writing a language, esp. as arranged in their usual order —**al'pha·bet'i·cal** *adj.* —**al'pha·bet'i·cal·ly** *adv.*

al·pha·bet·ize (al'fə bə tîz') *vt. -ized', -iz'ing* to arrange in the usual order of the alphabet —**al'pha·bet'i·za'tion** *n.*

al'pha·nu·mer'ic (-nōō mer'ik) *adj.* having both alphabetical and numerical symbols

alpha particle a positively charged particle given off by certain radioactive substances

alpha ray a stream of alpha particles

alpha wave an electrical brain wave indicating relaxation: also **alpha rhythm**

Al·pine (al'pîn') *adj.* 1 of the Alps 2 [a-] of or like high mountains

Alps (alps) mountain system in SC Europe

al·read·y (ôl red'ē) *adv.* 1 by or before the given or implied time 2 even now or even then

al·right (ôl rīt') *adj., adv., interj. dis-*
puted sp. of ALL RIGHT

Al-sace (al sās', al'sas') historical region of NE France —**Al-sa'tian** (-sā'shən) *adj., n.*

al-so (ôl'sō) *adv.* [**<** OE *eall*, all + *swa*, so] in addition; likewise; too; besides

al'so-ran' *n.* [Inf.] a defeated contestant in a race, election, etc.

alt *abbrev.* 1 alternate 2 altitude 3 alto

al-tar (ôl'tər) *n.* [**<** L *altus*, high] 1 a platform where sacrifices are made to a god, etc. 2 a table, etc. for sacred purposes in a place of worship

altar boy a boy or man who helps a priest at religious services, esp. at Mass

al-ter (ôl'tər) *vt., vi.* [**<** L *alter*, other] to change; make or become different — **al-ter-a'tion** *n.*

al-ter-ca-tion (ôl'tər kă'shən) *n.* [**<** L *altercari*, to dispute] an angry or heated argument; quarrel

al'ter e'go [L, other I] 1 another aspect of oneself 2 a constant companion

al-ter-nate (ôl'tər nit; *for v., -nāt'*) *adj.* [**<** L *alternus*, one after the other] 1 succeeding each other 2 every other 3 **ALTERNATIVE** (*adj.* 1) —*n.* a substitute —*vt.* -*nated*, -*nating* to do or use by turns —*vi.* 1 to act, happen, etc. by turns 2 to take turns regularly — **al'ter-nate-ly** *adv.* —**al'ter-na'tion** *n.*

alternating current an electric current reversing direction periodically: *abbrev.* AC

al-ter-na-tive (ôl tər'nə tiv) *adj.* 1 providing a choice between things 2 of an institution, etc. appealing to unconventional interests [an *alternative* school] —*n.* 1 a choice between things 2 one of the things to be chosen 3 something left to choose

al-ter-na-tor (ôl'tər nāt'ər) *n.* an electric generator producing alternating current

al-though (ôl thō') *conj.* [ME **<** *al*, even + **THOUGH**] in spite of the fact that; though: sometimes *sp.* **al-tho'**

al-tim-e-ter (al tim'ət ər) *n.* [**<** L *altus*, high + -**METER**] an instrument for measuring altitude

al-ti-tude (al'tə tōd') *n.* [**<** L *altus*, high] 1 the height of a thing, esp. above sea level 2 a high place: *usually used in pl.*

al-to (al'tō) *n., pl. -tos* [It **<** L *altus*, high] 1 the range of a voice between tenor and mezzo-soprano 2 a voice, singer, or instrument with such a range 3 a part for an alto —*adj.* of or for an alto

al-to-gether (ôl'tō geth'ər) *adv.* 1 completely 2 in all 3 on the whole

al-tru-ism (al'trō iz'əm) *n.* [**<** L *alter*, other] unselfish concern for the welfare of others —**al'tru-ist** *n.* —**al'tru-is'tic** *adj.* —**al'tru-is'ti-cal-ly** *adv.*

al-um (al'əm) *n.* [**<** L *alumen*] any of a group of salts of aluminum, etc., used in manufacturing and medicine

al-u-min-i-um (al'yō min'ē əm) *n.* [Brit.] *var. of* ALUMINUM

a-lu-mi-num (ə lōō'mə nəm) *n.* [**<** L *alumen*, alum] a silvery, lightweight

metallic chemical element

a-lum-nus (ə lum'nəs) *n., pl. -ni' (-nī')* [L, foster son] a person, esp. a boy or man, who has attended or is a graduate of a particular school, college, etc. —**a-lum'na** (-nə), *pl. -nae* (-nē), *fem.n.*

al-ways (ôl'wāz) *adv.* [OE *ealne weg*] 1 at all times 2 all the time 3 at any time 4 in every instance

Alz-hei-mer's disease (äls'hī'mərz) [after A. Alzheimer, 20th-c. Ger doctor] a degenerative brain disease

am (am) *vi.* [OE *eom*] 1st pers. sing., pres. indic., of BE

Am *abbrev.* 1 America 2 American

AM¹ (ā'em') *n.* amplitude-modulation broadcasting or sound transmission

AM² *abbrev.* 1 amplitude modulation 2 [L *ante meridiem*] before noon: used to designate the time from midnight to noon: also A.M., am, or a.m. 3 [L *Artium Magister*] master of arts: also A.M.

AMA *abbrev.* American Medical Association

a-mal-gam (ə mal'gəm) *n.* [**<** Gr *malagma*, an emollient] 1 any alloy of mercury with another metal [a dental filling of silver *amalgam*] 2 a mixture; blend

a-mal'ga-mate' (-gə māt') *vt., vi.* -*mated*, -*mat'ing* to unite; mix; combine —**a-mal'ga-ma'tion** *n.*

a-man-dine (ä'mən dēn') *adj.* [Fr] prepared with almonds

a-man-u-en-sis (ə man'yō en'sis) *n., pl. -ses' (-sēz')* [L **<** *a-*, from + *manus*, hand + -*ensis*, relating to] a secretary: now a jocular usage

am-a-ranth (am'ə ranth') *n.* [**<** Gr *amarantos*, unfading] 1 any of a large group of similar plants, some bearing showy flowers 2 [Old Poet.] an imaginary flower that never dies

am-a-ret-to (am'ə ret'ō) *n.* [It, rather bitter] [*also* A-] a liqueur with an almond flavor

Am-a-ril-lo (am'ə ril'ō) city in NW Texas: pop. 158,000

am-a-ryl-lis (am'ə ril'is) *n.* [**<** Gr *Amaryllis*, name for a shepherdess] a lilylike plant with white, purple, pink, or red flowers

a-mass (ə mas') *vt.* [**<** Fr **<** L *massa*, a lump] to pile up; accumulate

am-a-teur (am'ə chər, -tər) *n.* [Fr **<** L *amare*, to love] 1 one who does something for pleasure, not for money; non-professional 2 one who is somewhat unskillful —*adj.* of or done by amateurs —**am'a-teur'ish** (-choor'-) *adj.* —**am'a-teur-ism'** *n.*

am-a-to-ry (am'ə tōr'ē) *adj.* [**<** L *amare*, to love] of or showing love, esp. sexual love

a-maze (ə māz') *vt.* **a-mazed'**, **a-maz'ing** [OE *āmasian*] to fill with great surprise or wonder; astonish —**a-maze'ment** *n.* —**a-maz'ing** *adj.* —**a-maz'ing-ly** *adv.*

Am-a-zon¹ (am'ə zän', -zən) *n.* 1 Gr. Myth. any of a race of female warriors

2 [a-] a tall, strong, aggressive woman
Am'a-zon'² river in N South America: c. 4,000 mi.

am-bas-sa-dor (am bas'ə dər) *n.* [**<** Prov *ambassador*] the highest-ranking diplomatic representative of one country to another —**am-bas'sa-do'ri-al** (-dôr'ē əl) *adj.* —**am-bas'sa-dor-ship'** *n.*

am-ber (am'bər) *n.* [**<** Ar *'anbar*, ambergris] 1 a brownish-yellow fossil resin used in jewelry, etc. 2 its color —*adj.* amberlike or amber-colored

am'ber-gris' (-grēs', -gris') *n.* [**<** OFr *ambre gris*, gray amber] a grayish, waxy substance in the intestines of sperm whales, used in perfumes

ambi- [L] combining form both [*ambidextrous*]

am-bi-dex-trous (am'bə deks'trəs) *adj.* [**<** earlier *ambidexter* + -OUS] using both hands with equal ease —**am'bi-dex-ter'i-ty** (-deks ter'ə tē) *n.*

am-bi-ence (am'bē əns, əm'bē əns') *n.* [Fr: see fol.] an environment or its distinct atmosphere: also sp. **am'bi-ance** (-əns)

am-bi-ent (am'bē ənt) *adj.* [**<** L *ambi-*, around + *ire*, to go] surrounding; on all sides

am-bi-gu-i-ty (am'bə gyōō'ə tē) *n.* 1 a being ambiguous 2 *pl.* -ties an ambiguous word, statement, etc.

am-big-u-ous (am big'yōō əs) *adj.* [**<** L *ambi-*, around + *agere*, to do] 1 having two or more meanings 2 not clear; vague —**am-big'u-ous-ly** *adv.*

am-bi-tion (am bish'ən) *n.* [**<** L *ambitio*, a going around (to solicit votes)] 1 a strong desire for fame, power, etc. 2 the thing so desired

am-bi'tious (-əs) *adj.* 1 full of or showing ambition 2 demanding great effort —**am-bi'tious-ly** *adv.*

am-biv-a-lence (am biv'ə ləns) *n.* [AMBI- + VALENCE] simultaneous conflicting feelings —**am-biv'a-lent** *adj.* —**am-biv'a-lent-ly** *adv.*

am-ble (am'bəl) *vi.* -bled, -bling [**<** L *ambulare*, to walk] 1 to move at an easy gait, as a horse 2 to walk in a leisurely way —*n.* 1 a horse's ambling gait 2 a leisurely walking pace

am-bro-sia (am brō'zhə) *n.* [**<** Gr *a-*, not + *brotos*, mortal] 1 Gr. & Rom. Myth. the food of the gods 2 anything that tastes or smells delicious —**am-bro'sial** *adj.*

am-bu-lance (am'byə ləns) *n.* [**<** L *ambulare*, to walk] a vehicle equipped for carrying the sick or wounded

am-bu-late (am'byō lāt', -byə-) *vi.* -lat'ed, -lat'ing to move about; walk —**am'bu-lant** (-lənt) *adj.* —**am'bu-la'tion** *n.*

am'bu-la-to'ry (-lə tōr'ē) *adj.* 1 of or for walking 2 able to walk

am-bus-cade (am'bəs kād') *n., vt., vi.* -cad'ed, -cad'ing AMBUSH

am-bush (am'boosh') *n.* [**<** ML *in-*, in + *boscus*, woods] 1 a deployment of persons in hiding to make a surprise attack 2 their hiding place 3 a sur-

prise attack —*vt., vi.* to attack from ambush

a-me-ba (ə mē'bə) *n., pl.* -bas or -bae (-bē) *alt. sp. of* AMOEBA —**a-me'bic** (-bik) *adj.*

a-mel-io-rate (ə mēl'yə rāt') *vt., vi.* -rat'ed, -rat'ing [**<** Fr. **<** L *melior*, better] to make or become better; improve —**a-mel'io-ra'tion** *n.*

a-men (ā'men', ä'-) *interj.* [**<** Heb *āmen*, truly] may it be so!: used after a prayer or to express approval

a-me-na-ble (ə mē'nə bəl, -men'ə-) *adj.* [**<** OFr **<** L *minare*, to drive (animals)] 1 responsible or answerable 2 able to be controlled; submissive —**a-me'na-bil'i-ty** *n.* —**a-me'na-bly** *adv.*

a-mend (ə mend') *vt.* [**<** L *emendare*] 1 to correct; emend 2 to improve 3 to change or revise (a law, etc.) —*vi.* to improve one's conduct —**a-mend'a-ble** *adj.*

a-mend'ment *n.* 1 a correction of errors, faults, etc. 2 improvement 3 a revision or change proposed or made in a bill, law, etc.

a-mends (ə mendz') *pl.n.* [see AMEND] [sometimes with *sing. v.*] payment made or satisfaction given for injury, loss, etc.

a-men-i-ty (ə men'ə tē, -mēn'-) *n., pl.* -ties [**<** L *amoenus*, pleasant] 1 pleasantness 2 an attractive feature or convenience 3 [*pl.*] courteous acts

am-ent (am'ənt, ā'mənt) *n.* [**<** L *amentum*, thong] CATKIN

Am-er-a-sian (am'ər ā'zhən) *n.* [AMER(ICAN) + ASIAN] a person of both American and Asian descent —*adj.* both American and Asian [an *Amerasian* child]

a-merce (ə mɜrs') *vt.* **a-merced'**, **a-merc'ing** [**<** OFr *a merci*, at the mercy of] to punish, esp. by imposing a fine —**a-merce'ment** *n.*

A-mer-i-ca (ə mer'i kə) [associated with Amerigo VESPUCCI] 1 North America, South America, and the West Indies, considered together: also the Americas 2 North America 3 the United States of America

A-mer'i-can (-kən) *adj.* 1 of or in America 2 of the U.S. or its people —*n.* 1 a person born or living in North or South America 2 a citizen of the U.S.

A-mer-i-can-a (ə mer'i kan'ə, -kā'nə) *pl.n.* books, papers, objects, etc. having to do with the U.S., its people, and its history

American Indian a member of any of the indigenous peoples of North or South America or the West Indies

A-mer'i-can-ism' *n.* 1 a custom or belief of or originating in the U.S. 2 a word or idiom originating in American English 3 devotion to the U.S., its customs, etc.

A-mer'i-can-ize' (-iz') *vt., vi.* -ized', -iz'ing to make or become American in character, manners, etc. —**A-mer'i-can-i-za'tion** *n.*

American plan a system of hotel operation in which the price charged covers room, service, and meals

American Revolution the war (1775-

83) fought by the American colonies to gain independence from Great Britain

American Samoa group of seven islands in the SW Pacific: an unincorporated territory of the U.S.: 77 sq. mi.; pop. 47,000

Am-er-in-di-an (am'ər in'dē ən) *n.*, *adj.* AMERICAN INDIAN — **Am'er-ind'** *n.*, *adj.*

am-e-thyst (am'i thist) *n.* [*< Gr amethystos, not drunken: the Greeks thought the amethyst prevented intoxication*] 1 a purple or violet quartz or corundum, used in jewelry 2 purple or violet

a-mi-a-ble (ā'mē ə bəl) *adj.* [*< L amicus, friend*] good-natured; friendly — **a'mi-a-bil'i-ty** *n.* — **a'mi-a-bly** *adv.*

am-i-ca-ble (am'i kə bəl) *adj.* [see prec.] friendly; peaceable — **am'i-ca-bil'i-ty** *n.* — **am'i-ca-bly** *adv.*

a-mid (ə mid') *prep.* in the middle of; among: also **a-midst** (ə midst')

am-ide (am'id') *n.* any of several organic compounds derived from ammonia

a-mid'ships' *adv.*, *adj.* in or toward the middle of a ship

a-mi-go (ə mē'gō) *n.*, *pl.* -gos' (-gōz') [Sp] a friend

a-mi-no acid (ə mē'nō) [*< AMMONIA*] any of the nitrogenous organic acids that form proteins necessary for all life

Am-ish (ām'ish, am'-) *pl.n.* [after Jacob Ammann (or Amen), the founder] the members of a Christian sect that favors plain living in an agrarian society — *adj.* of this sect

a-miss (ə mis') *adv.* [see A-¹ & MISS¹] in a wrong way; astray — *adj.* wrong, faulty, improper, etc. [what is amiss?]

am-i-ty (am'i tē) *n.*, *pl.* -ties [*< L amicus, friend*] peaceful relations

am-me-ter (am'mēt'ər) *n.* [AM(PERE) + -METER] an instrument for measuring an electric current in amperes

am-mo (am'ō) *n.* [Slang] ammunition

am-mo-ni-a (ə mōn'yə) *n.* [prob. from a salt found near Egyptian shrine of Jupiter Ammon] 1 a colorless, pungent gas, a compound of nitrogen and hydrogen 2 a 10% water solution of this gas

am-mu-ni-tion (am'yōō nish'ən) *n.* [*< L munire, fortify*] 1 bullets, gunpowder, bombs, grenades, rockets, etc. 2 any means of attack or defense

am-ne-sia (am nē'zhə) *n.* [*< Gr a-, not + mnasthai, to remember*] partial or total loss of memory

am-nes-ty (am'nəs tē) *n.*, *pl.* -ties [*< Gr amnestia, a forgetting*] a pardon, esp. for political offenses — *vt.* -tied, -ty-ing to pardon

am-ni-o-cen-te-sis (am'nē ō'sen tē'sis) *n.* [*< fol. + Gr kentēsis, a pricking*] the surgical procedure of extracting amniotic fluid from a pregnant woman to determine the sex of the fetus, detect disease, etc.

am-ni-on (am'nē ən, -än') *n.*, *pl.* -ni-ons or -ni-a (-ə) [Gr, dim. of amnos, lamb] the membrane enclosing the embryo of a mammal, reptile, or bird: it is filled with a watery fluid (amniotic fluid) — **am'ni-ot'ic** (-ät'ik) *adj.*

a-moe-ba (ə mē'bə) *n.*, *pl.* -bas or -bae

(-bē) [*< Gr ameibein, to change*] a one-celled, microscopic organism reproducing by fission — **a-moe'bic** (-bik) *adj.*

a-mok (ə muk') *adj.*, *adv.* [*< Malay amuk, attacking furiously*] used chiefly in run amok, lose control and behave violently

a-mong (ə mun') *prep.* [*< OE on, in + gemang, a crowd*] 1 surrounded by [among friends] 2 in the group of [best among books] 3 to or for each or several of [divide it among the crowd] 4 by the joint action of Also [Chiefly Brit.] **a-mongst** (ə munst')

A-mon-Re (ä'mən rā') *n.* the ancient Egyptian sun god: also **A'mon-Ra'** (-rā')

a-mon-til-la-do (ə män'tə lä'dō) *n.* [*< Sp, after Montilla, town in Spain*] a pale, dry sherry

a-mor-al (ä mōr'al) *adj.* 1 neither moral nor immoral 2 without moral sense — **a-mo-ral'i-ty** *n.* — **a-mor'al-ly** *adv.*

am-o-rous (am'ə rəs) *adj.* [*< L amor, love*] 1 fond of making love 2 full of love 3 of sexual love — **am'o-rous-ly** *adv.*

a-mor-phous (ə mōr'fəs) *adj.* [*< Gr a-, without + morphē, form*] 1 without definite form 2 vague or indefinite 3 *Chem.* not crystalline

am-or-tize (am'ər tiz', ə mōr'-) *vt.* -tized', -tiz'ing [*< ME < L ad, to + mors, death*] to put money aside at intervals for gradual payment of (a debt, etc.) — **am'or-ti-za'tion** *n.*

a-mount (ə mount') *vi.* [*< OFr amont, upward < L ad, to + mons, mountain*] 1 to add up (to) 2 to be equal (to) in value, etc. — *n.* 1 a sum total 2 the whole value or effect 3 a quantity

a-mour (ə mōor') *n.* [*< L amor, love*] a love affair, esp. an illicit one

a-mour-pro-pre (ä mōor prô'pr') *n.* [Fr] self-esteem

amp¹ (amp) *n.* short for: 1 AMPERE 2 AMPLIFIER

amp² *abbrev.* 1 amperage 2 ampere(s)

am-per-age (am'pər ij) *n.* the strength of an electric current in amperes

am-pere (am'pir') *n.* [*< A. M. Ampère, 19th-c. Fr physicist*] the standard unit for measuring an electric current, equal to one coulomb per second

am-per-sand (am'pər sand') *n.* [*< and per se and, (the sign) & by itself (is) and*] a sign (&), meaning and

am-phet-a-mine (am fet'ə mēn', -min) *n.* a drug used esp. as a stimulant and to lessen appetite

am-phis-i-an (am fib'ē ən) *n.* [see fol.] 1 any amphibious animal, as a frog, or plant 2 any aircraft that can take off from or land on water or land — *adj.* AMPHIBIOUS

am-phis'i-ous *adj.* [Gr amphibios, living a double life < amphi-, around + bios, life] that can live or operate on land and in water

am-phi-the-a-ter or **am-phi-the-a-tre** (am'fə thē'ə tər) *n.* [*< Gr amphi-, around + theatron, theater*] a round or oval building with rising rows of seats

around an open space

am·ple (am'pəl) *adj.* -pler, -plest [*< L amplus*] 1 large in size, scope, etc. 2 more than enough 3 adequate — **am'ply** *adv.*

am·pli·fi·er (am'plə fī'ər) *n.* one that amplifies; esp., a device for strengthening electrical signals

am'pli·fy' (-fī') *vt.* -fied', -fy'ing [*< L amplus, large + facere, to make*] 1 to make stronger; esp.; to strengthen (electrical signals) 2 to develop more fully — **am'pli·fi·ca'tion** *n.*

am·pli·tude (am'plə tōd') *n.* [*see AMPLE*] 1 scope, extent, breadth, etc. 2 abundance 3 range from mean to extreme of a fluctuating quantity, as of an alternating current

amplitude modulation the changing of the amplitude of the transmitting radio wave in accordance with the signal being broadcast: abbrev. *AM*

am·pul (am'pūl') *n.* [*< L ampulla, bottle*] a small, sealed, glass or plastic container for a single dose of a hypodermic medicine: also **am'pule'** (-pyūl') or **am'poule'** (-pūl')

am·pu·tate (am'pyū tāt') *vt., vi.* -tated, -tat'ing [*< L am-, AMBI- + putare, to prune*] to cut off (an arm, etc.), esp. by surgery — **am'pu·ta'tion** *n.*

am'pu·tee' (-tē') *n.* one who has had a limb or limbs amputated

Am·ster·dam (am'stər dam') constitutional capital of the Netherlands: pop. 724,000

amt *abbrev.* amount

Am·trak (am'trak') *abbrev.* [*Am(eric)an tr(avel) (tr)a(c)k*] a national U.S. passenger railroad system

a·muck (ə muk') *n. alt. sp. of AMOK*

am·u·let (am'yū lit) *n.* [*< L*] something worn to protect against evil

a·muse (ə myūz') *vt.* **a·mused'**, **a·mus'ing** [*< Fr < à, at + OFr muser, to gaze*] 1 to keep pleasantly occupied; entertain 2 to make laugh, smile, etc. — **a·mus'ed·ly** *adv.*

a·muse'ment *n.* 1 a being amused 2 something that amuses; entertainment
amusement park an outdoor place with devices for entertainment, as a merry-go-round, roller coaster, etc.

am·yl·ase (am'ə lās') *n.* [*< Gr amylon, starch*] an enzyme that helps change starch into sugar, found in saliva, etc.

an (an; *unstressed*, ən, 'n) *adj., indefinite article* [*< OE an, one*] 1 one; one sort of 2 each; any one — *prep.* per [two an hour] *An* is used before words beginning with a vowel sound [*an eye, an honor*] See also *A*²

-an (ən, in, 'n) [*< L -anus*] *suffix* 1 (one) belonging to [*diocesan*] 2 (one) born in or living in [*Mexican*] 3 (one) believing in [*Lutheran*]

a·nach·ro·nism (ə nak'rə niz'am) *n.* [*< Gr ana-, against + chronos, time*] 1 anything out of its proper historical time 2 the representation of this — **a·nach'ro·nis'tic** *adj.*

an·a·con·da (an'ə kən'də) *n.* [*< Sinha-*

lese henacandāya, a snake of Sri Lanka] a long, heavy South American boa living in trees and water

an·aer·o·bic (an'ər ō'bik) *adj.* [*< Gr an-, without + aēr, air + bios, life*] able to live and grow without air or free oxygen, as certain bacteria

an·aes·the·sia (an'əs thē'zhə) *n.* ANESTHESIA — **an'aes·thet'ic** (-thet'ik) *adj., n.*

an·a·gram (an'ə gram') *n.* [*< Gr anagrammatizein, transpose letters*] 1 a word, etc. made by rearranging letters (Ex.: *now — won*) 2 [*pl., with sing. v.*] a word game based on this

An·a·heim (an'ə hīm') city in SW California: pop. 266,000

a·nal (ā'nəl) *adj.* 1 of or near the anus 2 [*Inf.*] excessively orderly, stingy, etc.

an·al·ge·sia (an'əl jē'zē ə) *n.* [*< Gr an-, without + algēsia, pain*] a fully conscious state in which pain is not felt

an'al·ge'sic (-zik) *adj.* of or causing analgesia — *n.* a drug that produces analgesia

an·a·log (an'ə lôg') *adj.* 1 of electronic devices in which the signal corresponds to a physical change 2 using hands, dials, etc. to show numerical amounts, as on a clock: cf. DIGITAL (sense 2) — *n.* ANALOGUE

a·nal·o·gize (ə nal'ə jīz') *vi., vt.* -gized', -giz'ing to use, or explain by, analogy

a·nal'o·gous (-gəs) *adj.* [*see ANALOGY*] similar in some way. — **a·nal'o·gous·ly** *adv.*

an·a·logue (an'ə lôg') *n.* something analogous

a·nal·o·gy (ə nal'ə jē) *n., pl. -gies* [*< Gr ana-, according to + logos, word, reckoning*] 1 similarity in some ways 2 the inference that certain resemblances imply further similarity

a·nal·y·sand (ə nal'ə sand') *n.* a person undergoing psychoanalysis

a·nal'y·sis (-sis) *n., pl. -ses' (-sēz')* [*< Gr ana-, up + lysis, a loosening*] 1 a) a breaking up of a whole into its parts to find out their nature, etc. b) any detailed examination 2 a statement of the results of this 3 PSYCHOANALYSIS 4 *Chem.* an analysis of compounds or mixtures — **an·a·lyt·ic** (an'ə lit'ik) or **an'a·lyt'i·cal** *adj.* — **an'a·lyt'i·cal·ly** *adv.*

an·a·lyst (an'ə list) *n.* 1 one who analyzes 2 a psychoanalyst

an'a·lyze' (-liz') *vt.* -lyzed', -lyz'ing 1 to make an analysis of; examine in detail 2 to psychoanalyze — **an'a·lyz'a·ble** *adj.* — **an'a·lyz'er** *n.*

an·a·pest (an'ə pest') *n.* [*< Gr ana-, back + paiein, to strike*] a metrical foot of two unaccented syllables followed by an accented one

an·ar·chism (an'ər kiz'am) *n.* 1 the theory that all forms of government interfere unjustly with individual liberty 2 resistance to all government — **an'ar·chist** *n.* — **an'ar·chis'tic** *adj.*

an'ar·chy (-kē) *n., pl. -chies* [*< Gr an-, without + archos, leader*] 1 the absence of government 2 political disorder and violence 3 disorder; confusion — **an·ar·chic** (an'ər'kik) *adj.* — **an'ar'chi·cal·ly** *adv.*

a·nath·e·ma (ə nath'ə mə) *n.*, *pl.* -mas [Gr, thing devoted to evil] 1 a thing or person accursed or damned 2 a thing or person greatly detested 3 a formal curse, as in excommunication

a·nath'e·ma·tize' (-tiz') *vt.*, *vi.* -tized', -tiz'ing to utter an anathema (against); curse

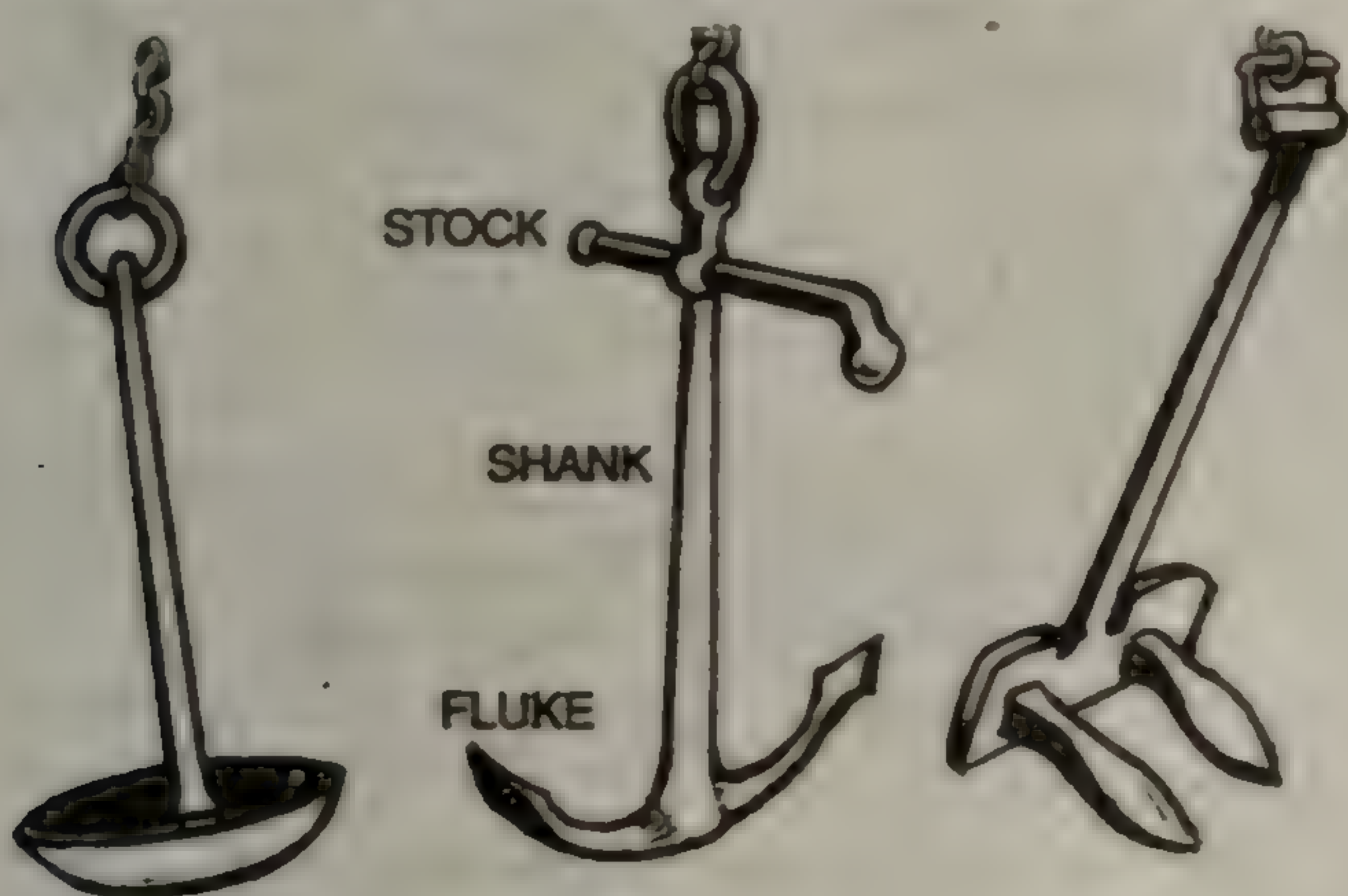
a·nat·o·mize (ə nat'ə mīz') *vt.*, *vi.* -mized', -miz'ing [see ANATOMY] 1 to dissect (an animal or plant) in order to examine the structure 2 to analyze — **a·nat'o·mist** *n.*

a·nat'o·my (-mē) *n.*, *pl.* -mies [< Gr *ana-*, up + *temnein*, to cut] 1 dissection of an organism to study its structure 2 the science of the structure of animals or plants 3 the structure of an organism 4 any analysis — **an·a·tom·i·cal** (an'ə tām'i kəl) or **an'a·tom'ic** *adj.*

-ance (əns) [< L] *suffix* 1 the act or process of ___ing [discontinuance] 2 the quality or state of being [forbearance] 3 a thing that ___s [hindrance] 4 a thing that is ___ed [utterance]

an·ces·tor (an'ses'tər) *n.* [< L *ante-*, before + *cedere*, go] 1 a person from whom one is descended; forebear 2 a precursor or forerunner — **an·ces·tral** (an ses'trəl) *adj.* — **an·ces·tress** (an'ses'trəs) *fem.n.*

an'ces'try (-trē) *n.*, *pl.* -tries 1 family descent 2 ancestors collectively



MUSH-
ROOM
ANCHOR

STOCKED
ANCHOR

STOCK-
LESS
ANCHOR

an·chor (an'kər) *n.* [< Gr *ankyra*, an anchor, hook] 1 a heavy object, usually an iron weight with flukes, lowered from a vessel, as by cable, to prevent drifting 2 anything giving stability 3 one who anchors a newscast: also **an'chor·person** — *vt.* 1 to hold secure as by an anchor 2 to be the final contestant on (a relay team, etc.) 3 to serve as coordinator and chief reporter for (a newscast) — *vi.* 1 to lower an anchor overboard 2 to be or become fixed — **at anchor** kept from drifting by its anchor

an'chor·age (-ij) *n.* 1 an anchoring or being anchored 2 a place to anchor

An·chor·age (an'kər ij) seaport in S Alaska: pop. 226,000

an·cho·rite (an'kə rīt') *n.* [< Gr *ana-*, back + *chōrein*, retire] a religious recluse; hermit

an'chor·man' *n.*, *pl.* -men' a person, often, specif., a man, who anchors a newscast — **an'chor·wom'an**, *pl.* -wom'en, *fem.n.*

an·cho·vy (an'chō'vē) *n.*, *pl.* -vies [< Port *anchova*] a herringlike fish, eaten as a relish

an·cient (ān'chənt) *adj.* [< L *ante*, before] 1 of times long past 2 very old — *n.* an aged person

an·cil·la (an sil'ə) *n.* a handbook or manual

an·cil·lar·y (an'sə ler'ē) *adj.* [< L *ancilla*, maidservant] 1 subordinate: often with *to* 2 auxiliary

-an·cy (ən sē) *suffix* -ANCE

and (and; *unstressed*, ənd, ən) *conj.* [OE] 1 also; in addition 2 plus 3 as a result 4 in contrast; but 5 then; following this 6 [Inf.] to [try and come today]

an·dan·te (än dän'tā) *adj.*, *adv.* [It < *andare*, to walk] *Music* moderate in tempo: also written **an·dan'te**

An·der·sen (an'dər sən), Hans Christian (häns, hänz) 1805-75; Dan. writer of fairy tales

An·des (Mountains) (an'dēz') mountain system of W South America

and·i·ron (and'ī'ərən) *n.* [< OFr *andier*] either of a pair of metal supports for logs in a fireplace

and/or (and'or') *conj.* either *and* or or [personal *and/or* real property]

An·dor·ra (an dōr'ə) country in the E Pyrenees: 175 sq. mi.; pop. 63,000

an·dro·gen (an'drō jən) *n.* [< Gr *andros*, of man + -GEN] a type of steroid that acts as a male sex hormone — **an'dro·gen'ic** (-jen'ik) *adj.*

an·drog·y·nous (an drä'jə nəs) *adj.* [< Gr *andros*, of man + *gynē*, woman] 1 both male and female in one 2 that blends male and female characteristics, roles, etc. 3 not differentiated as to gender [*androgynous* clothing]

an·droid (an'droid') *n.* [< Gr *andros*, of man + -OID] in science fiction, a robot made to resemble a human being

an·ec·dote (an'ik dōt') *n.* [< Gr *anekdotos*, unpublished] a short, entertaining account of some event — **an'ec·dot'al** *adj.*

a·ne·mi·a (ə nē'mē ə) *n.* [< Gr *an-*, without + *haima*, blood] a condition in which the blood is low in red cells or in hemoglobin, resulting in paleness, weakness, etc. — **a·ne'mic** *adj.*

an·e·mom·e·ter (an'ə mām'ət ər) *n.* [< Gr *anemos*, the wind + -METER] a gauge for determining the force or speed of the wind; wind gauge

a·nem·o·ne (ə nem'ə nē') *n.* [< Gr *anemos*, the wind] 1 a plant with cup-shaped flowers of white, pink, red, or purple 2 SEA ANEMONE

a·nent (ə nent') *prep.* [< OE *on efen*, on even (with)] [Now Rare] concerning; about

aneroid barometer (an'ər oid') [< Gr *a-*, without + *nēros*, liquid + -OID] a barometer working by the bending of a thin metal disk instead of by the rise or fall of mercury

an·es·the·sia (an'es thē'zhə) *n.* [< Gr *an-*, without + *aisthēsis*, feeling] a par-

tial or total loss of the sense of pain, touch, etc., specif. when induced by an anesthetic

an'es-the'si-ol'o-gist (-thē'zē əl'ə jist) *n.* a doctor who specializes in giving anesthetics — **an'es-the'si-ol'o-gy** *n.*

an'es-thet'ic (-thet'ik) *adj.* of or producing anesthesia — *n.* a drug, gas, etc. used to produce anesthesia, as before surgery

an-es-the-tist (ə nes'thə tist') *n.* one trained to give anesthetics

an-es'the-tize' (-tiz') *vt.* -tized', -tiz'ing to cause anesthesia in — **an-es'the-ti-za'tion** *n.*

an-eu-rysm or **an-eu-rism** (an'yōō riz'əm) *n.* [*<* Gr *ana-*, up + *eurys*, broad] a sac formed by an enlargement in a weakened wall of an artery, a vein, or the heart

a-new (ə nōō') *adv.* 1 once more; again 2 in a new manner or form

an-gel (ān'jəl) *n.* [*<* Gr *angelos*, messenger] 1 *Theol.* a) a messenger of God b) a supernatural being with greater than human power, etc. 2 an image of a human figure with wings and a halo 3 a person regarded as beautiful, good, innocent, etc. 4 [*Inf.*] a financial backer, as for a play — **an-gel-ic** (an jel'ik) or **an-gel'i-cal** *adj.* — **an-gel'i-cal-ly** *adv.*

angel dust [*Slang*] a powerful psychedelic drug

An-ge-le-no (an'jə lē'nō) *n., pl. -nos* [*AmSp*] a person born or living in Los Angeles

an-gel-fish (ān'jəl fish') *n., pl. -fish'* or (for different species) *-fish'es* a brightly-colored tropical fish with spiny fins

angel (food) cake a light, spongy, white cake made with egg whites

an-ger (an'gər) *n.* [*<* ON *angr*, distress] a feeling of displeasure and hostility that a person has because of being injured, mistreated, opposed, etc. — *vt., vi.* to make or become angry

an-gi-na (pec-to-ris) (an ji'nə pek'tər is) [*L*, lit., squeezing of the breast] a condition marked by chest pain, caused by a sudden decrease of blood to the heart

an-gi-o-gram (an'jē ō gram') *n.* an X-ray photograph of blood vessels

an'gi-o-plas'ty (-plas'tē) *n.* any of various surgical techniques for repairing or replacing damaged blood vessels

an'gi-o-sperm' (-spərm') *n.* [*<* Gr *angos*, vessel + *sperma*, seed] any of a large division of plants having seeds produced within a closed pod or ovary

an-gle¹ (an'gəl) *n.* [*<* Gr *ankylos*, bent] 1 the shape or space made by two straight lines or plane surfaces that meet 2 the measure of this space, expressed in degrees, etc. 3 a sharp corner 4 a point of view; aspect 5 [*Inf.*] a tricky method for achieving a purpose — *vt., vi.* -gled, -gling 1 to move or bend at an angle 2 [*Inf.*] to give a specific point of view to (a story, etc.)

an-gle² (an'gəl) *vi.* -gled, -gling [*<* OE *angul*, fishhook] 1 to fish with a hook

and line 2 to use tricks to get something [*to angle for a promotion*] — **an'gler** *n.*

An-gle (an'gəl) *n.* a member of a Germanic people that settled in E England in the 5th c. A.D.

angle iron a piece of iron or steel bent at a right angle, for joining or reinforcing two beams, etc.

an'gle-worm' *n.* an earthworm

An-gli-can (an'gli kən) *adj.* [*<* ML *Anglicus*, of the Angles] of or connected with the Church of England — *n.* an Anglican church member

An'gli-cize' (-glə siz') *vt., vi.* -cized', -ciz'ing [*also a-*] to change to English idiom, pronunciation, customs, etc. — **An'gli-ci-za'tion** *n.*

An-glo (an'glō) *n., pl. -glos* [*AmSp*] [*also a-*] a white inhabitant of the U.S. who is of non-Hispanic descent

Anglo- combining form 1 English 2 Anglican

An'glo-A-mer'i-can (an'glō-) *adj.* English and American — *n.* an American of English birth or ancestry

An'glo-French' *adj.* English and French — *n.* the French spoken in England from the Norman Conquest through the Middle Ages

An'glo-Sax'on *n.* 1 a member of the Germanic peoples in England at the time of the Norman Conquest 2 the language of these peoples, OLD ENGLISH 3 an Englishman — *adj.* 1 of the Anglo-Saxons 2 of the English

An-go-la (an gō'lə, an-) country on the SW coast of Africa: 481,354 sq. mi.; pop. 5,646,000

An-go-ra (an gōr'ə, an-) *n.* [*former name of ANKARA*] 1 a breed of cat, goat, or rabbit with long, silky fur or hair 2 a) yarn of Angora rabbit hair b) mohair

an-gry (an'grē) *adj.* -gri-er, -gri-est 1 feeling or showing anger 2 wild and stormy — **an'gri-ly** (-grə lē) *adv.*

ang-strom (an'strəm) *n.* [*after A. J. Angström*, 19th-c. Swed physicist] one hundred-millionth of a centimeter: a unit used in measuring the length of light waves

an-guish (an'gwish) *n.* [*<* L *angustia*, tightness] great mental or physical pain; agony — *vi., vt.* to feel or cause to feel anguish — **an'guished** *adj.*

an-gu-lar (an'gyə lər) *adj.* 1 having or forming an angle or angles; having sharp corners 2 lean; gaunt 3 without ease or grace; stiff — **an'gu-lar'i-ty** (-lar'ə tē), *pl. -ties*, *n.*

an-i-line (an'ə lin) *n.* [*<* Ar *an-nīl*, the indigo plant] a colorless, poisonous, oily derivative of benzene, used in making dyes, resins, etc.

an-i-mad-vert (an'i məd vurt', -mad'-) *vi.* [*L animadvertere*, lit., to turn the mind] to comment adversely (*on* or *upon*) — **an'i-mad-ver'sion** *n.*

an-i-mal (an'i məl) *n.* [*L < anima*, breath, soul] 1 any of a group of living organisms, excluding plants, bacteria, and certain other simple organisms, typically able to move about 2 any such organism other than a human being;

esp., any four-footed creature **3** a brutish or inhuman person —*adj.* **1** of or like an animal **2** gross, bestial, etc.

an-i-mate (an'ī māt'; *for adj.*, -mit) *vt.* -mated, -mat'ing [see prec.] **1** to give life or motion to **2** to make energetic or spirited **3** to inspire —*adj.* living —**an'i-ma'tion** *n.* —**an'i-ma'tor** *n.*

an'i-mat'ed *adj.* **1** living or lifelike **2** lively **3** designating or of a movie made by photographing a series of drawings so that the figures in them seem to move

an-i-mism (an'ī miz'əm) *n.* [< L *anima*, soul] the belief that all life is produced by a spiritual force, or that all natural phenomena have souls —**an'i-mis'tic** *adj.*

an-i-mos-i-ty (an'ə mäs'ə tē) *n.*, *pl.* -ties [see fol.] a feeling of strong dislike or hatred; hostility

an-i-mus (an'ə mäs) *n.* [L, passion] animosity; hostility

an-i-on (an'ī'ən) *n.* [< Gr *anion*, thing going up] a negatively charged ion: in electrolysis, anions move toward the anode

an-ise (an'is) *n.* [< Gr *anison*] **1** a dicotyledonous plant related to celery and parsley **2** its fragrant seed, used for flavoring: also **an'i-seed'** (-i sēd')

an-i-sette (an'ī zet', -set') *n.* [Fr] a sweet, anise-flavored liqueur

An-ka-ra (an'kər ə, ən'-) capital of Turkey: pop. 2,235,000

ankh (anj) *n.* [Egypt, life, soul] a cross with a loop at the top, an ancient Egyptian symbol of life

an-kle (anj'kəl) *n.* [OE *ancleow*] **1** the joint that connects the foot and the leg **2** the area of the leg between the foot and calf

an-klet (anj'lit) *n.* **1** an ornament worn around the ankle **2** a short sock

an-nals (an'əlz) *pl.n.* [< L *annus*, year] **1** a written account of events year by year **2** historical records; history **3** a journal containing reports of a society, etc. —**an'nal-ist** *n.*

An-nap-o-lis (ə nap'ə lis) capital of Maryland: pop. 33,000

Ann Ar-bor (an är'bər) city in SE Michigan: pop. 110,000

an-neal (ə nēl') *vt.* [< OE *an-*, on + *æl*, fire] to heat (glass, metals, etc.) and cool to prevent brittleness

an-ne-lid (an'ə lid') *n.* [< L dim. of *anulus*, a ring] any of various wormlike animals, including leeches, having long, segmented bodies

an-nex (ə neks'; *for n.*, an'eks') *vt.* [< L *ad-*, to + *nectere*, to tie] **1** to attach or append, esp. to something larger **2** to incorporate into a country, etc. the territory of (another country, etc.) —*n.* something annexed; esp., an addition to a building —**an-nex-a-tion** (an'eks ə'shən) *n.*

an-ni-hi-late (ə nī'ə lāt') *vt.* -lat'ed, -lat'ing [< L *ad-*, to + *nihil*, nothing] to destroy completely —**an-ni'hi-la'tion** *n.* —**an-ni'hi-la'tor** *n.*

an-ni-ver-sa-ry (an'ə vər'sə rē) *n.*, *pl.* -ries [< L *annus*, year + *vertere*, to turn]

the date on which some event occurred in an earlier year

an-no-tate (an'ō tāt') *vt.*, *vi.* -tat'ed, -tat'ing [< L *ad-*, to + *nota*, a sign] to provide explanatory notes for (a text, etc.) —**an'no-ta'tion** *n.* —**an'no-ta'tor** *n.*

an-nounce (ə nouns') *vt.* -nounced', -nounc'ing [< L *ad-*, to + *nuntius*, messenger] **1** to declare publicly **2** to make known the arrival of **3** to be an announcer for —*vi.* to serve as announcer —**an-nounce'ment** *n.*

an-nounc'er *n.* one who announces; specif., one who introduces radio or TV programs

an-noy (ə noi') *vt.* [< VL *in odio*, in hate] to irritate or bother, as by a repeated action —**an-noy'ance** *n.* —**an-noy'ing** *adj.* —**an-noy'ing-ly** *adv.*

an-nu-al (an'yō əl) *adj.* [< L *annus*, year] **1** of or measured by a year **2** yearly **3** living only one year or season —*n.* **1** a periodical published once a year **2** a plant living only one year or season —**an'nu-al-ly** *adv.*

an-nu-i-ty (ə nōō'ə tē) *n.*, *pl.* -ties [see prec.] **1** an investment yielding periodic payments, esp. yearly **2** such a payment —**an-nu'i-tant** *n.*

an-nul (ə nul') *vt.* -nulled', -nul'ling [< L *ad-*, to + *nullum*, nothing] **1** to do away with **2** to make no longer legally binding; nullify —**an-nul'ment** *n.*

an-nu-lar (an'yō lər) *adj.* [< L *anulus*, a ring] like or forming a ring

an-nun-ci-a-tion (ə nun'sē ā'shən) *n.* an announcing —**the Annunciation** **1** Bible the angel Gabriel's announcement to Mary that she would bear Jesus **2** the church festival commemorating this

an-ode (an'ōd') *n.* [< Gr *anodos*, a way up] **1** the positive electrode in an electrolytic cell **2** the principal electrode for collecting electrons in an electron tube **3** the negative electrode in a battery

an-o-dize (an'ō diz') *vt.* -dized', -diz'ing to put a protective film on (a metal) by an electrolytic process in which the metal is the anode

an'o-dyne' (-dīn') *adj.* [< Gr *an-*, without + *odynē*, pain] **1** soothing **2** bland; insipid —*n.* anything that relieves pain or soothes

a-noint (ə noint') *vt.* [< L *in-*, on + *unguere*, to smear] to put oil on, as in consecrating —**a-noint'ment** *n.*

a-nom-a-lous (ə nām'ə ləs) *adj.* [< Gr *an-*, not + *homos*, the same] **1** abnormal **2** inconsistent or odd

a-nom'a-ly (-lē) *n.*, *pl.* -lies **1** abnormality **2** anything anomalous

an-o-mie or **an-o-my** (an'ə mē) *n.* [Fr < Gr *anomia*, lawlessness] lack of purpose, identity, etc.

a-non (ə nän') *adv.* [< OE *on an*, into one] [Archaic] **1** soon **2** at another time

Anon or **anon** *abbrev.* anonymous

a-non-y-mous (ə nän'ə mäs) *adj.* [< Gr *an-*, without + *onyma*, name] **1** with no name known **2** given, written, etc. by one whose name is withheld or

unknown 3 lacking individuality —**an-o-nym-i-ty** (an'ə nim'ə tē) *n.* —**a-non'y-mous-ly** *adv.*

a-noph-e-les (ə năf'ə lēz') *n.* [**<** Gr *anōphelēs*, harmful] the mosquito that can transmit malaria

an-o-rex-i-a (an'ə reks'ē ə) *n.* [**<** Gr *an-*, without + *orexis*, desire] an eating disorder characterized by obsession with weight loss: in full **anorexia ner-vo-sa** (nər vō'sə) —**an'o-rex'ic** *adj.*, *n.*

an-oth-er (ə nuθ'ər) *adj.* 1 one more; an additional 2 a different —**pron.** 1 one additional 2 a different one 3 one of the same kind

an-swer (an'sər) *n.* [**<** OE *and-*, against + *swerian*, swear] 1 a reply to a question, letter, etc. 2 any act in response 3 a solution to a problem —**vi.** 1 to reply 2 to be sufficient 3 to be responsible or liable (to a person for an action, etc.) 4 to conform (to) [he *answers* to the description] —**vt.** 1 to reply or respond to 2 to serve or fulfill [to *answer* the purpose] 3 to defend oneself against (a charge) 4 to conform to [she *answers* the description] —**answer back** [Inf.] to reply forcefully or insolently —**an'swer-a-ble** *adj.*

an'swer-ing machine a device for recording telephone messages automatically

answering service a business whose function is to answer telephone calls for its clients

ant (ant) *n.* [**<** OE *æmet(t)e*] any of a family of insects, generally wingless, that live in complex colonies

ant- *prefix* ANTI-

-ant (ənt) [**ult.** **<** L] *suffix* 1 that has, shows, or does [*defiant*] 2 one that [*occupant*]

ant-ac-id (ant'as'id) *adj.* counteracting acidity, specif. gastric acidity —*n.* an antacid substance

an-tag-o-nism (an tag'ə niz'əm) *n.* [**see** ANTAGONIZE] opposition or hostility

an-tag'o-nist *n.* an adversary; opponent —**an-tag'o-nis'tic** *adj.* —**an-tag'o-nis'ti-cally** *adv.*

an-tag'o-nize' (-nīz') *vt.* -nized', -niz'ing [**<** Gr *anti-*, against + *agōn*, a contest] to incur the dislike of or make an enemy of

ant-arc-tic (ant ärk'tik, -är'-) *adj.* [**see** ANTI- & ARCTIC] of or near the South Pole or the region around it —**the Antarctic** the region including Antarctica and the Antarctic Ocean

Ant-arc'ti-ca (-ti kə) land area about the South Pole, completely covered by an ice shelf: c. 5,400,000 sq. mi.

Antarctic Circle [*also* a- c-] an imaginary circle parallel to the equator, c. 66°34' south of it

ant bear a large anteater of Central America and tropical South America

an-te (an'tē) *n.* [**L**, before] **Poker** the stake that each player must put into the pot before receiving cards —**vt.**, *vi.* -ted or -teed, -te-ing **Poker** to put in (one's ante): *also* ante up

ante- [**see** prec.] *prefix* before in time or

place

ant'eat'er *n.* a mammal with a long snout, that feeds mainly on ants

an-te-bel-lum (an'ti bel'əm) *adj.* [**L**] before the war; specif., before the American Civil War

an-te-ced-ent (an'tə sēd'nt) *adj.* [**<** L *ante-*, before + *cedere*, go] prior; previous —*n.* 1 any thing prior to another 2 [*pl.*] one's ancestry, past life, etc. 3 **Gram.** the word or phrase to which a pronoun refers

an-te-cham-ber (an'ti chām'bər) *n.* a room leading into a larger or main room

an'te-date' (-dāt') *vt.* -dat'ed, -dat'ing 1 to put a date on that is earlier than the actual date 2 to come before in time

an'te-di-lu'vi-an (-də lōō'vē ən) *adj.* [**<** ANTE- + L *diluvium*, a flood + -AN] 1 of the time before the biblical Flood 2 very old or old-fashioned

an-te-lope (an'tə lōp') *n.* [**<** Gr *antholops*, deer] a swift, cud-chewing, horned animal resembling the deer

an-te me-ri-di-em (an'tē mə rid'ē əm) [**L**] before noon

an-ten-na (an ten'ə) *n.* [**L**, sail yard] 1 *pl.* -nae (-ē) or -nas either of a pair of feelers on the head of an insect, crab, etc. 2 *pl.* -nas **Radio, TV** an arrangement of wires, rods, etc. used in sending and receiving electromagnetic waves

an-te-ri-or (an tir'ē ər) *adj.* [**<** L *ante*, before] 1 at or toward the front 2 previous; earlier

an-te-room (an'tē rōōm') *n.* a room leading to a larger or main room

an-them (an'thəm) *n.* [**<** Gr *anti-*, over against + *phōnē*, voice] 1 a religious choral song 2 a song of praise or devotion, as to a nation

an-ther (an'thər) *n.* [**<** Gr *anthēros*, blooming] the part of a stamen that produces pollen

ant'hill' *n.* the soil heaped up by ants around their nest opening

an-thol-o-gize (an thāl'ə jīz') *vi.* -gized', -giz'ing to make anthologies —**vt.** to include in an anthology —**an-thol'o-gist** (-jist) or **an-thol'o-giz'er** *n.*

an-thol'o-gy (-jē) *n.*, *pl.* -gies [**<** Gr *anthos*, flower + *legein*, gather] a collection of poems, stories, songs, etc.

An-tho-ny (an'thə nē, -tə-), **Mark** *see* ANTONY, Mark

an-thra-cite (an'thrə sīt') *n.* [**<** Gr *anthrax*, coal] hard coal, which gives much heat and little smoke

an-thrax (an'thraks') *n.* [**<** Gr, coal, carbuncle] an infectious disease of cattle, sheep, etc. that can be transmitted to humans

anthropo- [**<** Gr *anthrōpos*, man] *combining form* man, human

an-thro-po-cen-tric (an'thrə pō'sen'trik) *adj.* [**see** ANTHROPO-] centering one's view of everything around humankind

an-thro-poid (an'thrə pōid') *adj.* [**see** ANTHROPO- & -OID] 1 resembling a human 2 apelike —*n.* any of certain highly developed primates, as the chimpanzee and gorilla

an·thro·pol·o·gy (an'thrə päl'ə jē) *n.* [ANTHROPO- + -LOGY] the study of the characteristics, customs, etc. of humanity —**an'thro-po-log'i-cal** (-pə lāj'i kəl) *adj.* —**an'thro-pol'o-gist** *n.*

an'thro-po'mor'phism (-pō'môr'fiz'əm) *n.* the attributing of human characteristics to gods, objects, etc. —**an'thro-po'mor'phic** *adj.* —**an'thro-po'mor'phic-al-ly** *adv.* —**an'thro-po'mor'phize** (-fiz'), **-phized'**, **-phiz'ing**, *vt.*, *vi.*

an·ti (an'tī, -tē) [Inf.] *n.*, *pl.* **-tis'** [< fol.] a person opposed to something —*prep.* opposed to

anti- [< Gr *anti*, against] *prefix* 1 against, hostile to 2 that operates against 3 that prevents, cures, or neutralizes 4 opposite, reverse 5 rivaling

an·ti-air-craft (an'tē er'kraft') *adj.* used against hostile aircraft

an'ti-bal·lis'tic missile (-bə lis'tik) a missile intended to destroy an enemy ballistic missile in flight

an'ti-bi-ot'ic (-bī āt'ik, -bē-) *n.* [< ANTI- + Gr *bios*, life] any of certain substances, as penicillin or streptomycin, produced by various microorganisms and capable of destroying or weakening bacteria, etc. —*adj.* of antibiotics

an·ti-bod-y (an'ti bād'ē) *n.*, *pl.* **-bod'ies** a protein produced in the body to neutralize a toxin or other antigen

an·tic (an'tik) *adj.* [< L: see ANTIQUE] odd and funny —*n.* a playful or ludicrous act, trick, etc.: *usually used in pl.*

An·ti-christ (an'ti krīst') *n.* Bible the great opponent of Christ: 1 John 2:18

an·tic-i-pate (an tis'ə pāt') *vt.* **-pat'ed**, **-pat'ing** [< L *ante-*, before + *capere*, take] 1 to look forward to 2 to forestall 3 to use or deal with in advance 4 to be ahead of in doing —**an·tic'i-pa'tion** *n.* —**an·tic'i-pa-to'ry** (-pə tōr'ē) *adj.*

an·ti-cli-max (an'ti klī'maks') *n.* 1 a sudden drop from the important to the trivial 2 a descent which is in disappointing contrast to a preceding rise —**an·ti-cli-mac'tic** (-klī mak'tik) *adj.*

an·ti-cline (an'ti klīn') *n.* [< ANTI- + Gr *klinein*, to lean] *Geol.* a sharply arched fold of stratified rock

an·ti-co-ag-u-lant (an'ti kō ag'yō lənt) *n.* a drug or substance that delays or prevents the clotting of blood

an'ti-de-pres'sant (-dē pres'ənt) *adj.* lessening emotional depression —*n.* an antidepressant drug

an·ti-dote (an'tə dōt') *n.* [< Gr *anti-*, against + *dotos*, given] 1 a remedy to counteract a poison 2 anything that works against an evil or unwanted condition

an·ti-freeze (an'ti frēz') *n.* a substance used, as in the radiator of an automobile, to prevent freezing.

an·ti-gen (an'tə jən) *n.* [ANTI- + -GEN] any substance to which the body reacts by producing antibodies

An·ti-gua and Bar·bu-da (an tē'gwə'n bār bōō'də) country in the E West Indies, consisting of three small islands: 171 sq. mi.; pop. 66,000

an·ti-he-ro (an'ti hir'ō) *n.*, *pl.* **-roes** the protagonist of a novel, etc. who lacks

the virtues of a traditional hero

an·ti-his-ta-mine (an'ti his'tə mēn', -mīn) *n.* any of several drugs used to block histamine, as in allergic reactions

an·ti-in-flam-ma-to-ry (an'tē in flam'ə tōr'ē) *adj.* reducing inflammation —*n.* an anti-inflammatory medication, as aspirin

an·ti-knock (an'ti nāk') *n.* a substance added to the fuel of internal-combustion engines to reduce noise resulting from too rapid combustion

An·til·les (an til'ēz') group of islands of the West Indies, including Cuba, Jamaica, etc. (Greater Antilles) & the Leeward Islands and Windward Islands (Lesser Antilles)

an·ti-lock (an'tē lāk') *adj.* designating an automotive braking system that prevents the wheels from locking during a sudden stop

an·ti-log-a-rithm (an'ti lôg'ə rith'əm) *n.* the number resulting when a base is raised to a power by a logarithm

an·ti-ma-cas-sar (an'ti mə kas'ər) *n.* [ANTI- + *macassar*, a hair oil] a small cover on the back or arms of a chair, sofa, etc. to prevent soiling

an·ti-mat-ter (an'ti mat'ər) *n.* a form of matter in which the electrical charge or other property of each particle is the reverse of that in the usual matter of our universe

an·ti-mis-sile (an'ti mis'əl) *adj.* designed as a defense against ballistic missiles

an·ti-mo-ny (an'tə mō'nē) *n.* [< ML] a silvery-white, nonmetallic chemical element used in alloys to harden them

an·ti-pas-to (an'ti pās'tō, -pas'-) *n.* [It < *anti-*, before + *pasto*, food] an appetizer of meats, cheeses, marinated vegetables, etc.

an·tip-a-thy (an tip'ə thē) *n.*, *pl.* **-thies** [< Gr *anti-*, against + *pathein*, to suffer] 1 strong dislike; aversion 2 the object of such dislike

an·ti-per-son-nel (an'ti pər'sə nel') *adj.* intended to destroy people rather than objects [*antipersonnel* mines]

an'ti-per'spi-rant (-pər'spə rənt) *n.* a substance applied to the skin to reduce perspiration

an·tiph-o-nal (an tif'ə nəl) *adj.* [see ANTHEM] sung or chanted in alternation

an·tip-o-des (an tip'ə dēz') *pl.n.* [< Gr *anti-*, opposite + *pous*, foot] any two places directly opposite each other on the earth —**an·tip'o-dal** *adj.*

an·ti-quar-i-an (an'ti kwer'ē ən) *adj.* 1 of antiques or antiquities 2 of antiquaries 3 dealing in old books —*n.* an antiquary

an·ti-quar-y (an'ti kwer'ē) *n.*, *pl.* **-quar'ies** a collector or student of antiquities

an'ti-quate' (-kwāt') *vt.* **-quat'ed**, **-quat'ing** [see fol.] to make old, out-of-date, or obsolete —**an'ti-quat'ed** *adj.* —**an'ti-qua'tion** *n.*

an·tique (an tēk') *adj.* [< L *antiquus*,

ancient] 1 of ancient times 2 out-of-date 3 of, or in the style of, a former period 4 dealing in antiques —*n.* 1 any ancient relic 2 a piece of furniture, etc. from a former period —*vt.* -ticked', -tiqu'ing to make look antique —*vi.* to shop for antique furniture, etc.

an-tiq·ui·ty (an tik'wə tē) *n., pl. -ties* [see prec.] 1 the ancient period of history 2 great age 3 [*pl.*] relics, etc. of the distant past

an-ti-Se-mit-ic (an'tē sə mit'ik) *adj.* 1 having or showing prejudice against Jews 2 discriminating against or persecuting Jews Also **an'ti-se-mit'ic** — **an'ti-Sem'ite'** (-sem'it') *n.* —**an'ti-Sem'i-tism'** (-ə tiz'əm) *n.*

an-ti-sep-sis (an'tə sep'sis) *n.* [ANTI- + SEPSIS] 1 a being antiseptic 2 the use of antiseptics

an'ti-sep'tic (-tik) *adj.* 1 preventing infection; decay, etc. by acting against bacteria, etc. 2 using antiseptics 3 sterile —*n.* any antiseptic substance — **an'ti-sep'ti-cal-ly** *adv.*

an-ti-se-rum (an'ti sir'əm) *n., pl. -rums* or -ra a serum containing antibodies

an'ti-slav'er-y (an'ti-) *adj.* against slavery

an'ti-so'cial *adj.* 1 not sociable; avoiding others 2 harmful to the welfare of people

an'ti-tank' *adj.* for use against tanks in war

an-tith-e-sis (an tith'ə sis) *n., pl. -ses'* (-sēz') [L *anti-*, against + *tithenai*, to place] 1 a contrast or opposition, as of ideas 2 the exact opposite —**an-ti-thet-i-cal** (an'tə thet'i kəl) *adj.* —**an'ti-thet'i-cal-ly** *adv.*

an-ti-tox-in (an'ti taks'in) *n.* 1 a circulating antibody formed by the body to act against a specific toxin 2 a serum containing an antitoxin, injected into a person to prevent a disease

an-ti-trust (an'ti trust') *adj.* opposed to or regulating trusts, or business monopolies

an-ti-vi-ral (an'ti vī'rəl) *adj.* capable of checking the growth of a virus

an'ti-viv'i-sec'tion-ist (-viv'ə sek'shən ist) *n.* one opposing vivisection

ant-ler (ant'lər) *n.* [L *antoillier*] the branched, bony growth on the head of any animal of the deer family — **ant'lered** (-lərd) *adj.*

An-to-ny (an'tə nē), Mark (or Marc) 83?-30 B.C.; Rom. general

an-to-nym (an'tə nim') *n.* [L *anti-*, opposite + *onyma*, name] a word meaning the opposite of another

Ant-werp (an'twərp') seaport in N Belgium: pop. 459,000

a-nus (ā'nəs) *n., pl. a'nus-es* or *a'ni'* (-nī') [L] the opening at the lower end of the alimentary canal

an-vil (an'vəl) *n.* [OE *anfilt*] 1 an iron or steel block on which metal objects are hammered into shape 2 one of three small bones in the middle ear

anx-i-e-ty (an zi'ə tē) *n., pl. -ties* [see fol.] 1 worry or uneasiness about what

may happen 2 an eager but uneasy desire [*anxiety* to do well]

anx-ious (anj'shəs) *adj.* [L *angere*, to choke] 1 worried 2 causing anxiety 3 eagerly wishing —**anx'ious-ly** *adv.*

an-y (en'ē) *adj.* [OE *ænig*] 1 one, no matter which, of more than two [*any boy may go*] 2 some [*has he any pain?*] 3 without limit [*any number can play*] 4 even one or the least amount of [*I haven't any dimes*] 5 every [*any child can do it*] —**pron.** (*sing. & pl.*) any one or ones —**adv.** to any degree or extent; at all [*is he any better today?*]

an'y-bod'y (-bād'ē, -bud'ē) *pron.* any person —*n., pl. -bod'ies* a person of some importance

an'y-how' *adv.* ANYWAY

an'y-more' *adv.* now; nowadays

an'y-one' *pron.* any person; anybody

any one any single (person or thing)

an'y-place' *adv.* [Inf.] in, at, or to any place

an'y-thing' *pron.* any object, event, fact, etc. —*n.* a thing, no matter of what kind —**adv.** in any way —**anything but** not at all

an'y-time' *adv.* at any time —**conj.** WHENEVER

an'y-way' *adv.* 1 in any manner 2 nevertheless; anyhow 3 haphazardly

an'y-where' *adv.* 1 in, at, or to any place 2 [Inf.] at all

A/o or **a/o** *abbrev.* account of

A-OK (ā'ō kā') *adj.* [A(LL) OK] [Inf.] excellent, fine, in working order, etc.: also **A'-O-kay'**

A one (ā' wun') [Inf.] first-class: also **A 1** or **A number 1**

a-or-ta (ā ōr'tə) *n., pl. -tas* or *-tae* (-tē) [L *aeirein*, to raise] the main artery of the body, carrying blood from the heart —**a-or'tic** or **a-or'tal** *adj.*

AP *abbrev.* Associated Press

a-pace (ə pās') *adv.* at a fast pace

A-pach-e (ə pach'ē) *n., pl. -es* or *-e* [AmSp] a member of a group of North American Indians of the SW U.S.

a-part (ə pärt') *adv.* [L *ad*, to, at + *pars*, part] 1 aside 2 away in place or time 3 in or to pieces —**adj.** separated —**apart from** other than —**tell apart** to distinguish between or among

a-part-heid (ə pär'tāt', -tīt') *n.* [Afrik, separateness] the official policy of racial segregation as practiced in South Africa, c. 1950-91

a-part'ment *n.* [L *apartare*, to separate] a room or suite of rooms to live in, esp. one of a number in an apartment building (or house)

ap-a-thy (ap'ə thē) *n., pl. -thies* [L *a-*, without + *pathos*, emotion] 1 lack of emotion 2 lack of interest; indifference; listlessness —**ap'a-thet'ic** (-thet'ik) *adj.* —**ap'a-thet'i-cal-ly** *adv.*

ap-a-tite (ap'ə tīt') *n.* [L *apatē*, deceit] a mineral incorporating calcium phosphate and found in rocks, bones, and teeth

a-pat-o-saur-us (ə pat'ə sōr'əs) *n.* a huge, plant-eating dinosaur

APB (ā'pē'bē') *n.* all-points bulletin

ape (āp) *n.* [**<** OE *apa*] 1 any gibbon or great ape 2 loosely, any monkey 3 a mimic 4 a person who is uncouth, clumsy, etc. —**vt.** aped, ap'ing to mimic —**ape'like** *adj.*

Ap-en-nines (ap'ə nīnz') *n.* mountain range of central Italy

a-pe-ri-tif (ə per'ə tēf') *n.* [**Fr**] an alcoholic drink taken before a meal

ap-er-ture (ap'ər chər) *n.* [**<** L *aperire*, to open] an opening; hole

a-pex (ā'peks') *n., pl.* a'pex'es or ap-i-ces (ap'ə sēz') [**L**] 1 the highest point 2 the pointed end; tip 3 the climax

a-pha-sia (ə fā'zhə) *n.* [**Gr** **<** *a-*, not + *phanai*, to say] loss of the power to use or understand words —**a-pha'sic** (-zik) *adj., n.*

a-phe-li-on (ə fē'lē ən) *n., pl.* -li-ons or -li-a (-ə) [**<** **Gr** *apo-*, from + *hēlios*, sun] the point farthest from the sun in the orbit of a planet or comet, or of a man-made satellite

a-phid (ā'fid, af'id) *n.* [**<** **ModL** *aphis*] an insect that lives on plants by sucking their juices

aph-o-rism (af'ə riz'əm) *n.* [**<** **Gr** *apo-*, from + *horizein*, to bound] a concise statement of a general truth; maxim; adage —**aph'o-ris'tic** *adj.* —**aph'o-ris'ti-cal-ly** *adv.*

aph-ro-di-si-ac (af'rə dē'zē ak') *adj.* [**ult.** after fol.] arousing or increasing sexual desire —*n.* an aphrodisiac drug, etc.

Aph-ro-di-te (af'rə dīt'ē) *n.* the Greek goddess of love and beauty

a-pi-ar-y (ā'pē er'ē) *n., pl.* -aries [**<** L *apis*, bee] a place where bees are kept —**a'pi-a-rist** (-ə rist) *n.*

a-piece (ə pēs') *adv.* [**ME** *a pece*] for each one; each

a-plen-ty (ə plen'tē) *adj., adv.* [**Inf.**] in abundance

a-plomb (ə plām', -plum') *n.* [**Fr.** see **PLUMB**] self-possession; poise

a-poc-a-lypse (ə pāk'ə lips') *n.* [**<** **Gr** *apokalyptein*, disclose] 1 a revelation of a violent struggle in which evil will be destroyed 2 a disastrous event, esp. the end of the world 3 [**A-**] *Bible* the book of Revelation —**a-poc'a-lyp'tic** (-lip'tik) *adj.*

A-poc-ry-pha (ə pāk'rə fə) *pl.n.* [**<** **Gr** *apo-*, away + *kryptein*, to hide] fourteen books of the Septuagint rejected in Judaism and Protestantism: eleven are in the Roman Catholic Bible

a-poc'ry-phal (-fəl) *adj.* 1 of doubtful authenticity 2 not genuine; spurious

ap-o-gee (ap'ə jē') *n.* [**<** **Gr** *apo-*, from + *gē*, earth] the point farthest from the earth in the orbit of the moon or a satellite

a-po-lit-i-cal (ā'pə lit'i kəl) *adj.* not concerned with political matters —**a'po-lit'i-cal-ly** *adv.*

A-pol-lo (ə pāl'ō) *n.* 1 the Greek and Roman god of music, poetry, prophecy, and medicine 2 *pl.* -los a handsome young man

a-pol-o-get-ic (ə pāl'ə jet'ik) *adj.* showing regret; making an apology —**a-pol'o-get'i-cal-ly** *adv.*

a-pol-o-gist (ə pāl'ə jist) *n.* one who

defends or attempts to justify a doctrine, faith, action, etc.

a-pol'o-gize' (-jīz') *vi.* -gized', -giz'ing to make an apology —**a-pol'o-giz'er** *n.*

a-pol-o-gy (ə pāl'ə jē) *n., pl.* -gies [**<** **Gr** *apo-*, from + *logos*, speech] 1 a formal defense of some idea, doctrine, etc.: also **ap-o-lo-gi-a** (ap'ə lō'jē ə) 2 an expression of regret for a fault, insult, etc.

ap-o-plex-y (ap'ə plek'sē) *n.* [**<** **Gr** *apo-*, from + *plēssein*, to strike] [Old-fashioned] **STROKE** (*n.* 3) —**ap'o-plec'tic** (-plek'tik) *adj.*

a-pos-ta-sy (ə pās'tə sē) *n., pl.* -sies [**<** **Gr** *apo-*, away + *stasis*, a standing] an abandoning of what one has believed in, as a faith or cause

a-pos'tate' (-tāt') *n.* a person guilty of apostasy

a-pos'ta-tize' (-tə tīz') *vi.* -tized', -tiz'ing to become an apostate

a pos-te-ri-o-ri (ā' pās tir'ē ōr'ī') [**L**] 1 from effect to cause 2 based on observation or experience

a-pos-tle (ə pās'al) *n.* [**<** **Gr** *apo-*, from + *stellen*, send] 1 [usually **A-**] any of the disciples of Jesus, esp. the original twelve 2 the leader of a new movement

ap-os-tol-ic (ap'əs täl'ik) *adj.* 1 of the Apostles or their teachings, work, etc. 2 [often **A-**] of the pope; papal

a-pos-tro-phe (ə pās'trə fē) *n.* [**<** **Gr** *apo-*, from + *strephein*, to turn] 1 a mark (') indicating: a) omission of a letter or letters from a word (Ex.: *it's* for *it is*) b) the possessive case (Ex.: *Mary's* dress) c) certain plural forms (Ex.: five 6's, dot the *i's*) 2 an exclamatory address to a person or thing

a-poth-e-car-y (ə pāth'ə ker'ē) *n., pl.* -ies [**<** **Gr** *apothēkē*, storehouse] [Old-fashioned] a pharmacist or druggist

ap-o-thegm (ap'ə them') *n.* [**<** **Gr** *apo-*, from + *phthengesthai*, to utter] a short, pithy saying

a-poth-e-o-sis (ə pāth'ē ō'sis, ap'ə thē'ə sis) *n., pl.* -ses' (-sēz') [**<** **Gr** *apo-*, from + *theos*, god] 1 the deifying of a person 2 the glorification of a person or thing 3 a glorified ideal

Ap-pa-la-chi-a (ap'ə lā'chə, -chē ə; -lach' ə) the highland region of the E U.S. extending from SW Pennsylvania through N Alabama

Ap'pa-la'chi-an Mountains mountain system extending from S Quebec to N Alabama: also **Appalachians**

ap-pall or **ap-pal** (ə pōl') *vt.* -palled', -pal'ling [**ult.** **<** L *ad*, to + *pallere*, to be pale] to horrify, dismay, or shock

ap-pa-loo-sa (ap'ə lōō'sə) *n.* [after *Palouse* Indians of NW U.S.] a Western saddle horse with black and white spots on the rump and loins

ap-pa-ra-tus (ap'ə rat'əs, -rāt'-) *n., pl.* -tus or -tus-es [**<** L *ad*-, to + *parare*, prepare] 1 the instruments, materials, tools, etc. for a specific use 2 any complex device, machine, or system

ap-par-el (ə per'al) *n.* [**ult.** **<** L *ad*-, to + *parere*, prepare] clothing; attire —**vt.** -eled or -elled, -el-ing or -el-ling to clothe: dress

ap-par-ent (ə per'ənt) *adj.* [see APPEAR] 1 readily seen; visible 2 evident; obvious 3 appearing real or true —**ap-par-ent-ly** *adv.*

ap-pa-ri-tion (ap'ə rish'ən) *n.* [see APPEAR] 1 anything that appears unexpectedly or in a strange way 2 a ghost; phantom

ap-peal (ə pēl') *vt.* [< L *ad-*, to + *pellere*, to drive] to make an appeal of (a case) —*vi.* 1 to appeal a law case to a higher court 2 to make an urgent request (to a person for help, etc.) 3 to be attractive or interesting —*n.* 1 a call upon some authority for a decision 2 a request for the transference of a case to a higher court for rehearing 3 a request for help, etc. 4 a quality that arouses interest, desire, etc. —**ap-peal-ing** *adj.*

ap-pear (ə pir') *vi.* [< L *ad-*, to + *perere*, be visible] 1 to come into sight 2 to come into being 3 to become understood or obvious 4 to seem; look 5 to present oneself formally in court 6 to come before the public

ap-pear-ance *n.* 1 an appearing 2 the look or outward aspect of a person or thing 3 an outward show; pretense — **keep up appearances** to maintain an outward show of being proper, prosperous, etc.

ap-pease (ə pēz') *vt.* -peased', -peas'ing [ult. < L *ad-*, to + *pax*, peace] to pacify, quiet, or satisfy, esp. by giving in to the demands of —**ap-pease-ment** *n.* —**ap-peas'er** *n.*

ap-pel-lant (ə pel'ənt) *n.* a person who appeals to a higher court

ap-pel-late (-it) *adj.* Law having to do with appeals [an *appellate* court]

ap-pel-la-tion (ap'ə lā'shən) *n.* [see APPEAL] 1 a naming 2 a name or title

ap-pend (ə pend') *vt.* [< L *ad-*, to + *pendere*, hang] to attach or affix; add as a supplement or appendix

ap-pend-age *n.* 1 anything appended 2 any external organ or part, as a tail

ap-pen-dec-to-my (ap'ən dek'tə mē) *n.*, *pl.* -mies [see -ECTOMY] the surgical removal of the appendix

ap-pen-di-ci-tis (ə pen'də sīt'is) *n.* [see -ITIS] inflammation of the appendix

ap-pen-dix (ə pen'diks) *n.*, *pl.* -dix-es or -di-ces' (-də sēz') [L, appendage] 1 additional material at the end of a book 2 a small, saclike appendage of the large intestine

ap-per-tain (ap'ər tān') *vi.* [< L *ad-*, to + *pertinere*, to reach] to belong as a function, part, etc.; pertain

ap-pe-ten-cy (ap'ə tən sē) *n.*, *pl.* -cies [see fol.] a craving; appetite

ap-pe-tite (ap'ə tīt') *n.* [< L *ad-*, to + *petere*, to desire] 1 a desire for food 2 any strong desire or craving

ap'pe-tiz'er (-tī'zər) *n.* a small portion of a tasty food to stimulate the appetite

ap'pe-tiz'ing (-tī'zīŋ) *adj.* 1 stimulating the appetite 2 savory; delicious

ap-plaud (ə plôd') *vt.*, *vi.* [< L *ad-*, to + *plaudere*, clap hands] 1 to show approval (of) by clapping the hands, etc. 2 to approve —**ap-plaud'er** *n.*

ap-plause (ə plôz') *n.* approval, esp. as shown by clapping hands

ap-ple (ap'əl) *n.* [< OE *æppel*, fruit, apple] 1 a firm, round, edible fruit 2 the tree it grows on

apple butter a thick, sweet spread made from apples stewed with spices

ap'ple-jack' *n.* brandy distilled from fermented cider

ap'ple-pie' *adj.* [Inf.] 1 neat and tidy [*apple-pie* order] 2 suggesting wholesomeness

ap'ple-sauce' *n.* a dessert or relish of apples cooked to a pulp in water and sweetened

ap-pli-ance (ə plī'əns) *n.* a device or machine, esp. one for household use

ap-pli-ca-ble (ap'li kə bəl) *adj.* that can be applied; appropriate —**ap'pli-ca-bil'i-ty** (-bil'ə tē) *n.*

ap'pli-cant (-kənt) *n.* one who applies, as for employment or help

ap-pli-ca-tion (ap'li kă'shən) *n.* 1 an applying 2 anything applied, as a remedy 3 a specific use 4 a request, or a form filled out in making one [an employment *application*] 5 continued effort; diligence 6 relevance or practicality 7 a computer program for performing a specific task

ap-pli-ca-tor (ap'li kăt'ər) *n.* any device for applying medicine or paint, polish, etc.

ap-plied (ə plīd') *adj.* used in actual practice [*applied* science]

ap-pli-qué (ap'li kă') *n.* [Fr] a decoration made of one material attached to another —*vt.* -quéd', -qué'ing to decorate with appliqué

ap-ply (ə plī') *vt.* -plied', -ply'ing [< L *ad-*, to + *plicare*, to fold] 1 to put or spread on [*apply* glue] 2 to put to practical or specific use [*apply* your knowledge] 3 to devote (oneself or one's faculties) diligently —*vi.* 1 to make a formal request 2 to be suitable or relevant —**ap-pli'er** *n.*

ap-point (ə point') *vt.* [< L *ad-*, to + *punctum*, a point] 1 to set (a date, place, etc.) 2 to name for an office, position, etc. 3 to furnish [*well-appointed*] —**ap-point-ee'** *n.*

ap-point'ive *adj.* of or filled by appointment [*an appointive* office]

ap-point-ment *n.* 1 an appointing or being appointed 2 a position filled by appointing 3 an arrangement to meet someone or be somewhere 4 [*pl.*] furniture; equipment

Ap-po-mat-tox Court House (ap'ə mat'əks) former village in central Virginia, where Lee surrendered to Grant (1865)

ap-por-tion (ə pôr'shən) *vt.* [see AD- & PORTION] to distribute in shares according to a plan —**ap-por-tion-ment** *n.*

ap-pose (ə pōz') *vt.* -posed', -pos'ing [< L *ad-*, to + *ponere*, put] to put side by side or opposite

ap-po-site (ap'ə zit) *adj.* [see prec.] appropriate; apt —**ap'po-site-ly** *adv.* —**ap'po-site-ness** *n.*

ap-po-si-tion (ap'ə zish'ən) *n.* 1 an apposing, or the position resulting from

this 2 the placing of a word or phrase beside another in explanation ["my niece" is in *apposition* with "Jill" in "Jill, my niece, is here"] —**ap·pos·i·tive** (ə pāz'ə tiv) *adj.*, *n.*

ap·prais·al (ə prāz'əl) *n.* 1 an appraising 2 an appraised value

ap·praise (ə prāz') *vt.* -praised', -prais'ing [*< L ad-, to + pretium, price*] 1 to set a price for; estimate the value of 2 to judge the quality or worth of — **ap·prais'er** *n.*

ap·pre·ci·a·ble (ə prē'shə bəl, -shē ə-) *adj.* [see *prec.*] enough to be perceived or estimated; noticeable — **ap·pre'ci·a·bly** *adv.*

ap·pre·ci·ate (ə prē'shē āt') *vt.* -at'ed, -at'ing [see *APPRAISE*] 1 to think well of; esteem 2 to recognize gratefully 3 to estimate the quality of 4 to be fully or sensitively aware of — *vi.* to rise in value — **ap·pre'ci·a·tor** *n.* — **ap·pre'ci·a·to'ry** (-shə tōr'ē, -shē ə-) *adj.*

ap·pre'ci·a'tion *n.* 1 grateful recognition, as of a favor 2 sensitive awareness, as of art 3 a rise in value or price

ap·pre'ci·a·tive (-shə tiv, -shē ə-) *adj.* feeling or showing appreciation — **ap·pre'ci·a·tive·ly** *adv.*

ap·pre·hend (ap'rē hend') *vt.* [*< L ad-, to + prehendere, take*] 1 to capture or arrest 2 to perceive; understand 3 to fear; dread

ap·pre·hen'sion (-hen'shən) *n.* 1 capture or arrest 2 perception or understanding 3 fear; anxiety

ap·pre·hen'sive (-siv) *adj.* anxious; uneasy — **ap·pre·hen'sive·ly** *adv.* — **ap·pre·hen'sive·ness** *n.*

ap·pren·tice (ə pren'tis) *n.* [see *APPREHEND*] 1 a person being taught a craft or trade, now usually as a member of a labor union 2 any beginner — *vt.* -ticed, -tic'ing to place or accept as an apprentice — **ap·pren'tice·ship** *n.*

ap·prise or **ap·prize** (ə prīz') *vt.* -prised' or -prized', -pris'ing or -priz'ing [see *APPREHEND*] to inform or notify

ap·proach (ə prōch') *vi.* [*< L ad-, to + propius, nearer*] to come closer — *vt.* 1 to come nearer to 2 to approximate 3 to make a proposal or request to 4 to begin dealing with — *n.* 1 a coming closer 2 an approximation 3 an overture (to someone): *usually used in pl.* 4 a means of reaching a person or place; access 5 a means of attaining a goal — **ap·proach'a·ble** *adj.*

ap·pro·ba·tion (ap'rə bā'shən) *n.* [see *APPROVE*] approval

ap·pro·pri·ate (ə prō'prē āt'; *for adj., -it*) *vt.* -at'ed, -at'ing [*< L ad-, to + proprius, one's own*] 1 to take for one's own use, often improperly 2 to set aside (money, etc.) for a specific use — *adj.* suitable; fit; proper — **ap·pro'pri·ate·ly** *adv.* — **ap·pro'pri·ate·ness** *n.* — **ap·pro'pri·a·tor** *n.*

ap·pro'pri·a'tion *n.* 1 an appropriating or being appropriated 2 money set aside for a specific use

ap·prov·al (ə prōv'əl) *n.* 1 the act of approving 2 favorable attitude or opinion 3 formal consent — **on approval** for the customer to examine and decide

whether to buy or return

ap·prove (ə prōv') *vt.* -proved', -prov'ing [*< L ad-, to + probus, good*] 1 to give one's consent to 2 to consider to be good, satisfactory, etc. — *vi.* to have a favorable opinion (of) — **ap·prov'ing·ly** *adv.*

ap·prox·i·mate (ə prāk'sə mīt; *for v., -māt*) *adj.* [*< L ad-, to + proximus, nearest*] 1 much like; resembling 2 more or less correct or exact — *vt.* -mat'ed, -mat'ing to come near to; be almost the same as — **ap·prox'i·mate·ly** *adv.*

ap·prox'i·ma'tion *n.* an estimate or guess that is approximately correct

ap·pur·te·nance (ə part'n əns) *n.* [see *APPERTAIN*] 1 anything added to a more important thing 2 [*pl.*] apparatus or equipment 3 *Law* an incidental right attached to some thing

APR *abbrev.* annual percentage rate

ap·ri·cot (ap'ri kät', ā'pri-) *n.* [Fr *abricot* *< L praecoquum, early matured (fruit)*] 1 a small, yellowish-orange, peachlike fruit 2 the tree it grows on

A·pril (ā'prəl) *n.* [*< L*] the fourth month of the year, having 30 days: *abbrev.* *Apr*

a pri·o·ri (ā' pri ōr'i) [*L*] 1 from cause to effect; deductive or deductively 2 based on theory, logic, etc. instead of experience

a·pron (ā'prən) *n.* [*< L mappa, napkin*] 1 a garment worn over the front part of the body to protect one's clothes 2 any extending or protecting part 3 a paved area, as where a driveway broadens to meet the road 4 the part of a stage in front of the proscenium arch

ap·ro·pos (ap'rə pō') *adv.* [Fr *à propos, to the purpose*] at the right time; opportunistically — *adj.* relevant; apt — *prep.* with regard to — **apropos of** with regard to

apse (aps) *n.* [*L apsis, an arch*] a semi-circular or polygonal projection of a church, usually domed or vaulted

apt¹ (apt) *adj.* [*< L aptus*] 1 appropriate; fitting [an *apt* remark] 2 tending or inclined; likely [*apt* to rain] 3 quick to learn — **apt'ly** *adv.* — **apt'ness** *n.*

apt² *abbrev.* apartment

ap·ti·tude (ap'tə tōd') *n.* [see *APT*¹] 1 a natural tendency, ability, or talent 2 quickness to learn

aq·ua (ak'wə, āk'-) *n.*, *pl.* -uas or -uae' (-wē') [*L*] water — *adj.* [*< AQUAMARINE*] bluish-green

aq'ua·cul'ture *n.* [*prec. + CULTURE*] the cultivation of water plants and animals for human use

aq'ua·ma·rine' *n.* [*L aqua marina, sea water*] bluish green — *adj.* bluish-green

aq'ua·naut' (-nôt') *n.* [*AQUA + (ASTRO)NAUT*] one trained to use a watertight underwater chamber as a base for undersea experiments

aq'ua·plane' *n.* [*AQUA + PLANE*¹] a board on which one rides standing up as it is pulled by a motorboat — *vi.* -plan'ed', -plan'ing to ride on such a board as a sport

a·quar·i·um (ə kwēr'ē əm) *n.*, *pl.* -i·ums

or -i-a (-ə) [*< L aquarius, of water*] 1 a tank, etc. for keeping live water animals and plants 2 a building where such collections are exhibited

A-quar'i-us (-əs) *n.* [*L, water carrier*] the 11th sign of the zodiac

a-quat-ic (ə kwat'ik, -kwät'-) *adj.* 1 growing or living in water 2 done in or upon the water [*aquatic sports*]

aq-ua-vit (ak'wə vət', äk'-) *n.* [*< L aqua vitae, water of life*] a Scandinavian alcoholic liquor distilled from grain or potatoes and flavored with caraway

aq-ue-duct (ak'wə dukt') *n.* [*< L aqua, water + ductus, a leading*] 1 a large pipe or conduit for bringing water from a distant source 2 an elevated structure supporting this

a-que-ous (ä'kwē əs, ak'wē-) *adj.* of, like, or formed by water

aqueous humor a watery fluid in the space between the cornea and the lens of the eye

aq-ui-fer (ak'wə fər, äk'-) *n.* [*< L aqua, water + ferre, carry*] an underground layer of porous rock, etc. containing water

aq-ui-line (ak'wə līn', -līn) *adj.* [*< L aquila, eagle*] 1 of or like an eagle 2 curved like an eagle's beak [*an aquiline nose*]

A-qui-nas (ə kwī'nəs), Saint Thomas (tām'əs) (1225?-74); It. theologian & philosopher

Ar *Chem. symbol for argon*

AR Arkansas

Ar-ab (ar'əb, er'-) *n.* 1 a person born or living in Arabia 2 a member of a Semitic people orig. living in Arabia, now throughout the Middle East

ar-a-besque (ar'ə besk', er'-) *n.* [*< It Arabo, Arab*] an elaborate design consisting of intertwined lines suggesting flowers, foliage, etc.



ARABESQUE

A-ra-bi-a (ə rā'bē ə) peninsula in SW Asia —**A-ra'bi-an** *adj., n.*

Arabian camel the one-humped camel ranging from N Africa to India

Arabian Nights, The a collection of tales from Arabia, India, Persia, etc.

Arabian Peninsula ARABIA

Ar-a-bic (ar'ə bik, er'-) *adj.* 1 of Arabia 2 of the Arabs or their language or culture —*n.* the Semitic language of the Arabs, spoken in Arabia, Syria, N Africa, etc.

Arabic numerals the figures 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and the 0 (zero)

ar-a-ble (ar'ə bəl, er'-) *adj.* [*< L arare, to plow*] suitable for plowing and farming

a-rach-nid (ə rak'nid) *n.* [*< Gr arachnē, spider*] any of a class of arthropods with four pairs of legs, including spiders and scorpions

Ar-a-ma-ic (ar'ə mā'ik, er'-) *n.* a Semitic language spoken during biblical times

ar-bi-ter (är'bət ər) *n.* [*L, a witness or judge*] an arbitrator; judge

ar-bi-trage (är'bə trāzh') *n.* [*see prec.*] the simultaneous purchase and sale, as of stock, in two financial markets to profit from a price difference

ar-bit-ra-ment (är bi'trə mənt) *n.* 1 arbitration 2 an arbitrator's verdict or award

ar-bi-trar-y (är'bə trer'ē) *adj.* [*see ARBITER*] 1 left to one's judgment 2 based on one's preference or whim; capricious 3 absolute; despotic —**ar'bi-trar-i-ly** *adv.*

ar'bi-trate' (-trāt') *vt., vi.* -trat'ed, -trating [*see ARBITER*] 1 to submit (a dispute) to an arbitrator 2 to decide (a dispute) as an arbitrator —**ar'bi-tra'tion** *n.*

ar'bi-tra'tor *n.* a person selected to judge a dispute, as in collective bargaining

ar-bor (är'bər) *n.* [*< L herba, grass, herb*] a place shaded by trees or shrubs or by vines on a latticework; bower

ar-bo-re-al (är bōr'ē əl) *adj.* [*< L arbor, tree*] 1 of or like a tree 2 living in trees

ar-bo-re-tum (är'bə rēt'am) *n., pl. -tums or -ta* (-ə) [*L*] a place where many kinds of trees and shrubs are grown for exhibition or study

ar-bor-vi-tae (är'bər vit'ē) *n.* [*L, tree of life*] any of various cypress trees having sprays of scalelike leaves

ar-bu-tus (är byoot'əs) *n.* [*L*] 1 a tree or shrub with dark-green leaves and strawberrylike fruit 2 a trailing plant with white or pink flower clusters

arc (ärk) *n.* [*< L arcus, a bow, arch*] 1 a bowlike curved line or object 2 the band of incandescent light formed when a current leaps a short gap between electrodes 3 any part of a curve, esp. of a circle —*vi.* **arced** or **arcked**, **arc'ing** or **arck'ing** to move in a curved course or form an arc

ar-cade (är käd') *n.* [*see prec.*] 1 a covered passageway, esp. one lined with shops 2 a line of arches and their supporting columns 3 a penny arcade or a similar place with coin-operated video games

ar-cane (är kăn') *adj.* [*< L arcanus, hidden*] secret or esoteric

arch¹ (ärch) *n.* [*see ARC*] 1 a curved structure used as a support over an open space, as in a doorway 2 the form of an arch 3 anything shaped like an arch —*vt.* to span with or as an arch —*vi.* to form an arch

arch² (ärch) *adj.* [*< ARCH-*] 1 chief; principal 2 gaily mischievous; pert [*an arch look*]

Arch or **arch** *abbrev.* 1 archaic 2 architecture

arch- [*< Gr archos, first, ruler*] *prefix* main, principal [*archenemy*]

-arch (ärk) [*see prec.*] *suffix* ruler [*matriarch*]

ar-chae-ol-o-gy (är'kē äl'ə jē) *n.* [*< Gr archaios, ancient + -LOGY*] the study of the life of ancient peoples, as by excava-

tion of ancient cities or artifacts: also sp. **ar·che·ol·o·gy** —**ar·chae·o·log·i·cal** (-ə lāj'i kəl) *adj.* —**ar·chae·o·log·i·cal·ly** *adv.* —**ar·chae·ol·o·gist** *n.*

ar·cha·ic (är kā'ik) *adj.* [**< Gr** *archaios*, ancient] 1 ancient 2 old-fashioned 3 no longer used except in poetry, church ritual, etc.: said as of the word *thou* —**ar·cha·i·cal·ly** *adv.*

ar·cha·ism (är'kā iz'əm) *n.* an archaic word, usage, style, etc. —**ar·cha·is'tic** *adj.*

arch·an·gel (ärk'än'jəl) *n.* an angel of high rank

arch·bish·op (ärch'-) *n.* a bishop of the highest rank

arch·dea·con *n.* a church official ranking just below a bishop

arch·di·o·cese *n.* the diocese of an archbishop —**arch·di·oc'e·san** *adj.*

arch·duke' *masc.n.* a sovereign prince, esp. of the former Austrian imperial family —**arch·duch'ess** *fem.n.*

arch·en'e·my *n., pl. -mies* a chief enemy —the archenemy Satan

arch·er (är'chär) *n.* [**< L** *arcus*, bow] one who shoots with bow and arrow

arch'er·y *n.* the sport of shooting with bow and arrow

ar·che·type (är'kə tip') *n.* [**< Gr** *archos*, first + *typos*, a mark] 1 an original pattern, or model; prototype 2 a perfect example of a type or group —**ar·che·typ'al** (-tip'əl) or **ar·che·typ'i·cal** (-tip'i kəl) *adj.*

ar·chi·e·pis·co·pal (är'kē ē pis'kə pəl) *adj.* of or related to an archbishop

Ar·chi·me·des (är'kə mē'dēz') 287?-212 B.C.; Gr. mathematician & inventor

ar·chi·pel·a·go (är'kə pel'ə gō') *n., pl. -goes' or -gos'* [**< Gr** *archi-*, chief + *pelagos*, sea] 1 a sea with many islands 2 a group of many islands

ar·chi·tect (är'kə tekt') *n.* [**< Gr** *archi-*, chief + *tektōn*, carpenter] 1 one who designs buildings and supervises their construction 2 any designer or planner

ar·chi·tec·ton·ics (är'kə tek tən'iks) *pl.n.* [usually with *sing. v.*] 1 the science of architecture 2 structural design, as of a symphony —**ar·chi·tec·ton'ic** *adj.*

ar·chi·tec·ture (är'kə tek'chär) *n.* 1 the science or profession of designing and constructing buildings 2 a style of construction 3 design and construction —**ar·chi·tec'tur·al** *adj.* —**ar·chi·tec'tur·al·ly** *adv.*

ar·chi·trave (är'kə trāv') *n.* [**< L** *archi-*, first + *trabs*, a beam] in a classical building, the beam resting directly on the tops of the columns

ar·chive (är'kiv') *n.* [**< Gr** *archeion*, town hall] [usually *pl.*] 1 a place for keeping public records, documentary material, etc. 2 the records, material, etc. kept there —*vt.* -chived', -chiv'ing to keep in or as in archives —**ar·chi·vist** (är'kə vist, -kī'-) *n.*

arch·way (ärch'wā') *n.* a passage under an arch, or the arch itself

-ar·chy (är kē) [**< Gr** *archein*, to rule] combining form rule, government [*monarchy*].

arc·tic (ärk'tik, är'-) *adj.* [**< Gr** *arktikos*, northern] 1 of or near the North Pole 2 very cold —the Arctic the region around the North Pole

Arctic Circle [also **a- c-**] an imaginary circle parallel to the equator, c. 66°34' north of it

Arctic Ocean ocean surrounding the North Pole

-ard (ərd) [**< MHG** *hart*, bold] *suffix* one who does something to excess [*drunkard*]

ar·dent (är'dənt) *adj.* [**< L** *ardere*, to burn] 1 passionate 2 zealous 3 glowing or burning —**ar'dent·ly** *adv.*

ar·dor (är'dər) *n.* [**< L** *ardor*, a flame] 1 emotional warmth; passion 2 zeal 3 intense heat Also, Brit. sp., **ar'dour**

ar·du·ous (är'jō əs) *adj.* [**L** *arduus*, steep] 1 difficult to do; laborious 2 using much energy; strenuous —**ar'du·ous·ly** *adv.*

are (är) *vi.* [**OE** *aron*] *pl. & 2d pers. sing., pres. indic., of BE*

ar·e·a (er'ē ə) *n.* [**L**, vacant place] 1 a part of the earth's surface; region 2 the measure, in square units, of a surface 3 a location having a specific use or character [*play area*] 4 scope or extent

area code a three-digit telephone code assigned to a specific area of the U.S., Canada, etc.

a·re·na (ə rē'nə) *n.* [**L**, sandy place] 1 a place or building for contests, shows, etc. 2 any sphere of struggle [*political arena*]

arena theater a theater having a central stage surrounded by seats

aren't (ärnt) *contr.* are not

Ar·es (er'ēz') *n.* *Gr. Myth.* the god of war

ar·gent (är'jənt) *adj.* [**L** *argentum*, silver] [Old Poet.] silvery

Ar·gen·ti·na (är'jən tē'nə) country in S South America: 1,073,518 sq. mi.; pop. 32,616,000 —**Ar'gen·tine'** (-tēn', -tīn') or **Ar'gen·tin'i·an** (-tīn'ē ən) *adj., n.*

ar·gon (är'gän') *n.* [**Gr**, inert] a chemical element, a nonreactive gas found in the air and used in light bulbs, electron tubes, etc.

Ar·go·naut (är'gə nôt') *n.* *Gr. Myth.* any of those who sail with Jason to search for the Golden Fleece

ar·go·sy (är'gə sē) *n., pl. -sies* [after *Ragusa*, It name of Dubrovnik in Croatia] [Old Poet.] a large merchant ship or a fleet of such ships

ar·got (är'gō, -gət) *n.* [**Fr**] the specialized vocabulary of a particular group, as of criminals

ar·gue (är'gyō) *vi.* -gued, -gu·ing [**< L** *arguere*, prove] 1 to give reasons (for or against) 2 to quarrel; dispute —*vt.* 1 to discuss; debate 2 to maintain; contend 3 to persuade by giving reasons —**ar'gu·a·ble** *adj.*

ar·gu·ment (är'gyō mənt) *n.* 1 a reason or reasons offered in arguing 2 an arguing; debate 3 a summary

ar'gu·men·ta'tion (-men tā'shən) *n.* the process of arguing; debate

ar'gu·men'ta·tive (-men'tə tiv) *adj.* 1

controversial 2 apt to argue; contentious Also **argu-men'tive**

ar-gyle (är'gīl') *adj.* [after Argyll, Scotland] knitted or woven in a diamond-shaped pattern [*argyle socks*]

a-ri-a (ä'rē ə) *n.* [It < L *aer*, air] a song, as in an opera, for solo voice

-ar-i-an (er'ē ən) [< L] *suffix* 1 (one) characterized by [*octogenarian*] 2 (one) believing in or associated with [*Unitarian*]

ar-id (ar'id) *adj.* [< L *arere*, be dry] 1 dry and barren 2 uninteresting; dull — **a-rid-i-ty** (ə rid'ə tē) *n.*

Ar-i-es (er'ēz') *n.* [L, ram (male sheep)] the first sign of the zodiac

a-right (ə rīt') *adv.* correctly

a-rise (ə rīz') *vi.* **a-rose'** (-rōz'), **a-ris'en** (-riz'an), **a-ris'ing** [< OE *a-*, out + *risan*, to rise] 1 to get up, as from sleeping 2 to ascend 3 to come into being 4 to result (*from*)

ar-is-toc-ra-cy (ar'i stä'krə sē) *n., pl. -cies* [< Gr *aristos*, best + *kratos*, to rule] 1 government by a privileged minority, usually of inherited wealth 2 a country with such government 3 a privileged ruling class

a-ris-to-crat (ə ris'tə krat') *n.* 1 a member of the aristocracy 2 one with the tastes, manners, etc. of the upper class — **a-ris'to-crat'ic** *adj.*

Ar-is-toph-a-nes (ar'i stäf'ə nēz') 450?-388? B.C.; Gr. writer of comedies

Ar-is-tot-le (ar'is tät'l) 384-322 B.C.; Gr. philosopher — **Ar-is-to-te-li-an** (ar'is tə tēl'yən) *adj., n.*

a-rith-me-tic (ə rith'mə tik) *n.* [< Gr *arithmos*, number] the science or art of computing by positive, real numbers — **ar-ith-met-ic** (ar'ith met'ik) or **ar'ith-met'i-cal** *adj.* — **ar'ith-me-ti'cian** (-mə tish'an) *n.*

arithmetic mean the average obtained by dividing a sum by the number of its addends

Ar-i-zo-na (ar'ə zō'nə) state of the SW U.S.: 113,956 sq. mi.; pop. 3,665,000; cap. Phoenix: abbrev. AZ — **Ar-i-zo'nan** or **Ar-i-zo'ni-an** *adj., n.*

ark (ärk) *n.* [< L *arcere*, enclose] 1 ARK OF THE COVENANT 2 an enclosure in a synagogue for the scrolls of the Torah 3 *Bible* the boat in which Noah, his family, and two of every kind of creature survived the Flood

Ar-kan-sas (är'kən sô') state of the SC U.S.: 53,187 sq. mi.; pop. 2,351,000; cap. Little Rock: abbrev. AR — **Ar-kan'san** (-kan'zən) *adj., n.*

ark of the covenant the chest containing the two stone tablets inscribed with the Ten Commandments

Ar-ling-ton (är'lin tən) city in NE Texas: pop. 262,000

arm¹ (ärm) *n.* [OE *earm*] 1 an upper limb of the human body 2 anything like this in shape, function, position, etc. 3 anything connected to something larger [*arm of the sea*] — **with open arms** cordially

arm² (ärm) *n.* [< L *arma*, weapons] 1 a

weapon: *usually used in pl.* 2 any branch of the military forces — **vt.** to provide with weapons, etc. — **vi.** to prepare for war or any struggle — **under arms** ready for war — **up in arms** 1 prepared to fight 2 indignant

ar-ma-da (är mä'də) *n.* [Sp < L *arma*, weapons] 1 a fleet of warships 2 a fleet of military aircraft

ar-ma-dil-lo (är'mə dil'ō) *n., pl. -los* [Sp: see prec.] a burrowing mammal of tropical America, covered with bony plates

Ar-ma-ged-don (är'mə ged'n) *n.* 1 *Bible* the site of the last, decisive battle between the forces of good and evil 2 any great, decisive battle

ar-ma-ment (är'mə mənt) *n.* [< L *armare*, to arm] 1 [often *pl.*] all the military forces and equipment of a nation 2 all the military equipment of a warship, tank, etc. 3 an arming or being armed for war

ar-ma-ture (är'mə chər) *n.* [< L *armare*, to arm] 1 any protective covering 2 the iron core wound with wire in which electromotive force is produced in a generator or motor

arm'chair *n.* a chair with supports at the sides for one's arms

armed forces all the military, naval, and air forces of a country

Ar-me-ni-a (är mēn'yə, -mē'nē ə) country in W Asia: 11,490 sq. mi.; pop. 3,305,000 — **Ar-me'ni-an** *adj., n.*

arm-ful (ärm'fūl) *n., pl. -fuls* as much as the arms or one arm can hold

arm'hole *n.* an opening for the arm in a garment

ar-mi-stice (är'mə stis) *n.* [< L *arma*, weapons + *stare*, to stand] a truce preliminary to the signing of a peace treaty

Armistice Day Nov. 11, the anniversary of the armistice of WWI in 1918

arm-let (ärm'lət) *n.* 1 an ornamental band worn around the upper arm 2 a narrow, deep inlet of the sea

arm'load *n.* an armful

ar-mor (är'mər) *n.* [< L *armare*, to arm] any defensive or protective covering — **vt., vi.** to put armor on — **ar'mored** *adj.*

armored car a vehicle covered with armor plate, as a truck for carrying money to or from a bank

ar-mo-ri-al (är mōr'ē əl) *adj.* of coats of arms

armor plate a protective covering of steel plates

ar-mor-y (är'mər ē) *n., pl. -mor-ies* [see ARMOR] 1 an arsenal 2 a National Guard unit drill hall

arm'pit *n.* the hollow under the arm at the shoulder

arm'rest *n.* a support for the arm, as on the inside of an automobile door

ar-my (är'mē) *n., pl. -mies* [ult. < L *arma*, weapons] 1 a large, organized body of soldiers for waging war, esp. on land 2 a large number of persons, animals, etc. [*an army of ants*]

Ar-nold (är'nəld), **Ben-e-dict** (ben'ə dikt') 1741-1801; Am. Revolutionary general who became a traitor

a-ro-ma (ə rō'mə) *n.* [< Gr *arōma*, spice]

a pleasant odor; fragrance

a-ro·ma·ther'a-py *n.* the therapeutic use of aromatic oils from herbs, etc.

ar·o·mat·ic (ar'ə mat'ik) *adj.* of or having an aroma; fragrant or pungent —*n.* an aromatic plant, chemical, etc. —**ar·o·mat'i-cal·ly** *adv.*

a·rose (ə rōz') *vi. pt. of* ARISE

a·round (ə raund') *adv.* [ME] 1 in a circle 2 in every direction 3 in circumference 4 to the opposite direction 5 [Inf.] nearby [stay around] —*prep.* 1 so as to encircle or envelop 2 on the border of 3 in various places in or on 4 about [around 1890]

a·rouse (ə rouz') *vt.* **a·roused'**, **a·rous'ing** 1 to awaken, as from sleep 2 to stir, as to action 3 to evoke [to arouse pity] —**a·rous'al** *n.*

ar·peg·gio (är pej'ō) *n., pl. -gios* [It < arpa, a harp] a chord whose notes are played in quick succession

ar·rain (ə rān') *vt.* [L *ad*, to + *ratio*, reason] 1 to bring before a law court to answer charges 2 to call to account; accuse —**ar·rain'ment** *n.*

ar·range (ə rānj') *vt.* **-ranged'**, **-rang'ing** [L *ar-*, to + *ranger*, to range] 1 to put in the correct order 2 to classify 3 to prepare or plan 4 to arrive at an agreement about 5 *Music* to adapt (a composition) to particular instruments or voices —*vi.* *Music* to write arrangements, esp. as a profession —**ar·rang'er** *n.*

ar·range'ment *n.* 1 an arranging 2 a result or manner of arranging 3 [usually *pl.*] a plan 4 a settlement 5 *Music* a) an arranging of a composition b) the composition as thus arranged

ar·rant (ar'ənt) *adj.* [var. of ERRANT] that is plainly such; out-and-out; notorious

ar·ras (ar'əs) *n.* [after Arras, Fr city] a wall hanging, esp. of tapestry

ar·ray (ə rā') *vt.* [L *ar-*, to + *areer*] 1 to place in order 2 to dress in finery —*n.* 1 an orderly grouping, esp. of troops 2 an impressive display 3 fine clothes

ar·rears (ə rirz') *pl.n.* [L *ad*, to + *retro*, behind] overdue debts —**in arrears** behind in paying a debt, doing one's work, etc.

ar·rest (ə rest') *vt.* [L *ad*-, to + *restare*, to stop] 1 to stop or check 2 to seize by authority of the law 3 to catch and keep (one's attention, etc.) —*n.* an arresting or being arrested —**under arrest** in legal custody

ar·rest'ing *adj.* attracting attention; interesting

ar·rhyth·mi·a (ə rith'mē ə) *n.* [L *ar-*, without + *rhythmos*, measure] an irregularity in the heart's rhythm —**ar·rhyth'mic** or **ar·rhyth'mi·cal** *adj.*

ar·riv·al (ə rī'vəl) *n.* 1 an arriving 2 a person or thing that arrives

ar·rive (ə rīv') *vi.* **-rived'**, **-riv'ing** [L *ad*-, to + *ripa*, shore] 1 to reach one's destination 2 to come [the time has arrived] 3 to attain fame, etc. —**arrive at** to reach by thinking, etc.

ar·ri·ve·der·ci (är rē've der'chē) *interj.* [It] goodbye

ar·ro·gant (ar'ə gənt) *adj.* [L *arrogare*, to claim] full of or due to pride; haughty —**ar·ro·gance** *n.* —**ar·ro·gant·ly** *adv.*

ar·ro·gate' (-gāt') *vt.* **-gat'ed**, **-gat'ing** [L *ad*-, for + *rogare*, to ask] to claim or seize without right —**ar·ro·ga'tion** *n.*

ar·row (ar'ō) *n.* [OE *arwe*] 1 a pointed shaft for shooting from a bow 2 a sign (←), used to indicate direction

ar·row·head' *n.* the separable, pointed tip of an arrow

ar·row·root' *n.* [from use as antidote for poisoned arrows] 1 a tropical plant with starchy roots 2 a starch made from its roots

ar·roy·o (ə roi'ō) *n., pl. -os* [Sp < L *arrugia*, mine shaft] [Southwest] 1 a dry gully 2 a rivulet or stream

ar·se·nal (är'sə nəl) *n.* [L *ars*, workshop] 1 a place for making or storing weapons 2 a store or collection

ar·se·nic (är'sə nik'; *for adj.* är sen'ik) *n.* [L *arsenikon*] a very poisonous chemical element, compounds of which are used in insecticides, etc. —*adj.* of or containing arsenic: also **ar·sen'i·cal**

ar·son (är'sən) *n.* [L *ardere*, to burn] the crime of purposely setting fire to a building or property —**ar·son·ist** *n.*

art¹ (ärt) *n.* [L *ars*] 1 human creativity 2 skill 3 any specific skill or its application 4 any craft or its principles 5 creative work or its principles 6 any branch of creative work, as painting or sculpture 7 products of this, as paintings or statues 8 a) a branch of learning b) [*pl.*] LIBERAL ARTS 9 cunning 10 sly trick; wile: *usually used in pl.*

art² (ärt) *vi.* *archaic* 2d pers. sing., pres. indic., of BE: used with *thou*

art³ *abbrev.* 1 article 2 artificial

art dec·o (dek'ō) a decorative style of the late 1920s and the 1930s, derived from cubism

ar·te·ri·al (är tir'ē əl) *adj.* 1 of or in the arteries 2 of a main road

ar·te·ri·ole (är tir'ē ōl') *n.* [see ARTERY] any of the small blood vessels between the arteries and capillaries

ar·te·ri·o·scl·e·ro·sis (är tir'ē ō'sklə rō'sis) *n.* [L *artēria*, artery + *SCLEROSIS*] an abnormal thickening and hardening of the walls of the arteries

ar·ter·y (ärt'er ē) *n., pl. -ter·ies* [L *aeirein*, to lift] 1 any of the blood vessels that carry blood away from the heart 2 a main route

ar·te·sian well (är tē'zhən) [Fr *artésien*, of Artois (in France)] a deep well in which water is forced up by pressure of underground water draining from higher ground

art film a film characterized by artistic sophistication, realism, etc.

art·ful (ärt'fəl) *adj.* 1 skillful or clever 2 cunning; crafty —**art'ful·ly** *adv.* —**art'ful·ness** *n.*

art house a theater that shows art films, etc.

ar·thri·tis (är thrī'tis) *n.* [Gr < *arthron*,

joint + -ITIS] inflammation of a joint or joints —**ar-thrit-ic** (är thrít'ik) *adj.*

arthro- [< Gr *arthron*, joint] *combining form* joint, joints

ar-thro-pod (är'thrə päd') *n.* [prec. + -POD] any of a phylum of invertebrates with jointed legs and a segmented body

ar'thro-scope (-sköp') *n.* [ARTHRO- + -SCOPE] an endoscope used inside a joint —**ar'thro-scop'ic** (-skäp'ik) *adj.*

Ar-thur¹ (är'thər) *n.* legendary 6th-c. king of Britain —**Ar-thu-ri-an** (är thoór' ē ən) *adj.*

Ar-thur² (är'thər), **Ches-ter A(lan)** (ches'tər) 1829-86; 21st president of the U.S. (1881-85)

ar-ti-choke (ärt'ə chök') *n.* [ult. < Ar *al-harshaf*] 1 a thistlelike plant 2 its edible flower head

ar-ti-cle (ärt'i kəl) *n.* [< L *artus*, joint] 1 one of the sections of a document 2 a complete piece of writing, as in a newspaper, magazine, etc. 3 a separate item [an *article* of luggage] 4 *Gram.* any one of the words *a*, *an*, or *the*, used as adjectives

ar-tic-u-late (är tik'yō lit; *for v.*, -lät') *adj.* [see prec.] 1 jointed: usually **ar-tic'u-lat'ed** 2 made up of distinct sounds, as speech 3 able to speak 4 expressing oneself clearly —**vt.** -lat'ed, -lat'ing 1 to connect by joints 2 to arrange in connected sequence 3 to utter distinctly 4 to express clearly —**vi.** 1 to speak distinctly 2 to be jointed or connected —**ar-tic'u-late-ly** *adv.* —**ar-tic'u-la'tion** *n.*

ar-ti-fact (ärt'ə fakt') *n.* any object made by human work

ar-ti-fice (ärt'ə fis) *n.* [< L *ars*, art + *facere*, make] 1 skill or ingenuity 2 trickery 3 an artful trick

ar-tif-i-cer (är tif'ə sər) *n.* 1 a skilled craftsman 2 an inventor

ar-ti-fi-cial (ärt'ə fish'al) *adj.* [see ARTIFICE] 1 made by human work; not natural 2 simulated [*artificial* teeth] 3 affected [*an artificial* smile] —**ar'ti-fi-ci-al'i-ty** (-fish'ē al'ə tē), *pl.* -ties, *n.* —**ar'ti-fi'cial-ly** *adv.*

artificial intelligence 1 the capability of computers to mimic human thought processes 2 the science dealing with this

artificial respiration the maintenance of breathing by artificial means, as by forcing air into the mouth

ar-til-ler-y (är til'ər ē) *n.* [< OFr *atillier*, equip] 1 mounted guns, as cannon or missile launchers 2 gunnery —**the artillery** the branch of an army using heavy mounted guns —**ar-til'ler-y-man** (-mən), *pl.* -men (-mən), *n.*

ar-ti-san (ärt'ə zən) *n.* [ult. < L *ars*, art] a skilled craftsman

art-ist (ärt'ist) *n.* 1 one who is skilled in any of the fine arts 2 one who does anything very well 3 a professional in any of the performing arts

ar-tis-tic (är tis'tik) *adj.* 1 of art or artists 2 done skillfully and tastefully 3 sensitive to beauty —**ar-tis'ti-cal-ly** *adv.*

art-ist-ry (ärt'is trē) *n.* artistic quality,

ability, or work

art-less (ärt'lis) *adj.* 1 lacking skill or art 2 simple; natural 3 without guile; ingenuous; innocent —**art'less-ly** *adv.*

Arts and Crafts a 19th-c. movement that promoted handwork and craftsmanship

art-y (ärt'ē) *adj.* **art'i-er**, **art'i-est** [Inf.] affectedly artistic —**art'i-ness** *n.*

ar-um (er'am) *n.* [L] any of a family of plants with flowers enveloped within a hoodlike leaf

Ar-y-an (ar'ē ən) *n.* [< Sans *ārya*, noble] 1 [Obs.] the hypothetical parent language of the Indo-European family 2 a person supposed to be a descendant of the prehistoric peoples that spoke this language: *Aryan* is not a valid ethnological term

as (az) *adv.* [< ALSO] 1 equally [just as happy at home] 2 for instance [a card game; *as* bridge] 3 when related in a specified way [my view *as* contrasted with yours] —**conj.** 1 to the same amount or degree that [straight *as* an arrow] 2 in the same manner that [do *as* you are told] 3 while [she wept *as* she spoke] 4 because [*as* you object, we won't go] 5 that the consequence is [so obvious *as* to need no reply] 6 though [tall *as* he was, he couldn't reach it] —**pron.** 1 a fact that [we are tired, *as* you can see] 2 that: preceded by *such* or *the same* [such books *as* I own] —**prep.** in the role or function of [he poses *as* a friend] —**as for** (or **to**) concerning — **as if** (or **though**) as it (or one) would if — **as is** [Inf.] just as it is —**as it were** as if it were so

As *Chem. symbol for arsenic*

ASAP *abbrev.* as soon as possible

as-bes-tos (as bes'təs, az-) *n.* [< Gr *a-*, not + *sbennynai*, extinguish] a nonconducting, fireproof mineral used, esp. formerly, in electrical insulation, roofing, etc.

as-cend (ə send') *vi.* [< L *ad-*, to + *scandere*, to climb] to move upward; rise —**vt.** 1 to move upward along; mount 2 to succeed to (a throne)

as-cend-an-cy or **as-cend-en-cy** (ə sen'dən sē) *n.* a position of control; domination

as-cend'ant or **as-cend'ent** (-dənt) *adj.* 1 rising 2 in control; dominant — **in the ascendant** at or approaching the height of power, fame, etc.

as-cen'sion (-shən) *n.* 1 an ascending 2 [A-] the 40th day after Easter, celebrating the Ascension —**the Ascension Bible** the bodily ascent of Jesus into heaven

as-cent (ə sent') *n.* 1 an ascending 2 an upward slope

as-cer-tain (as'ər tăn') *vt.* [see AD- & CERTAIN] to find out with certainty

as-cet-ic (ə set'ik) *adj.* [< Gr *askein*, to train the body] self-denying; austere — *n.* [< Gr *awkētēs*, monk] one who leads a life of strict self-denial, esp. for religious purposes —**as-cet'i-cism**' (-ə siz'əm) *n.*

ASCII (as'kē) *n.* a code that facilitates information exchange among various computers

a·scor·bic acid (ə skôr'bik) [**A**-² + *scorbutic*, of scurvy + **-IC**] vitamin C

as·cot (as'kət, -kät') *n.* a necktie with very broad ends hanging from the knot

as·cribe (ə skrib') *vt.* **-cribed'**, **-crib'ing** [**< L** *ad-*, to + *scribere*, write] 1 to assign (something) to a supposed cause 2 to regard (something) as belonging to or coming from someone —**as·crip·tion** (ə skrip'shən) *n.*

a·sep·tic (ā sep'tik, ə-) *adj.* free from disease-producing bacteria, etc.

a·sex·u·al (ā sek'shō əl) *adj.* 1 having no sex or sexual organs 2 without the union of male and female germ cells 3 having little or no sexual activity, desire, character, etc. —**a·sex'u·al·ly** *adv.*

ash¹ (ash) *n.* [**< OE** *æsce*] 1 the grayish powder left after something has burned 2 fine, volcanic lava 3 the gray color of wood ash See also **ASHES**

ash² (ash) *n.* [**< OE** *æsc*] 1 a shade tree of the olive family 2 its wood

a·shamed (ə shāmd') *adj.* 1 feeling shame 2 reluctant because fearing shame beforehand —**a·sham·ed·ly** (ə shām'id lē) *adv.*

ash·en (ash'an) *adj.* 1 of ashes 2 like ashes, esp. in color; pale

ash·es (ash'iz) *pl.n.* 1 the grayish powder and small particles left after a thing has burned 2 human remains, esp. the part left after cremation

a·shore (ə shôr') *adv.*, *adj.* 1 to or on the shore 2 to or on land

ash·ram (āsh'rəm) *n.* [**< Sans** *ā*, toward + *śrama*, penance] 1 a secluded place for a Hindu religious community 2 such a community

ash'tray' *n.* a container for smokers' tobacco ashes, etc.; also ash tray

Ash Wednesday the first day of Lent: from the putting of ashes on the forehead in penitence

ash'y *adj.* **-i·er**, **-i·est** 1 of or covered with ashes 2 ashen; pale

A·sia (ā'zhə) largest continent, in the Eastern Hemisphere: c. 17,400,000 sq. mi.; pop. c. 3,451,000,000 —**A'sian** or less preferred **A·si·at·ic** (ā'zhē at'ik) *adj.*, *n.*

Asia Minor large peninsula in W Asia, between the Black Sea and the Mediterranean

a·side (ə sīd') *adv.* 1 on or to one side 2 in reserve [put one *aside* for me] 3 apart; notwithstanding [joking *aside*] — *n.* words spoken by an actor but supposedly not heard by the other actors — **aside from** 1 with the exception of 2 apart from

as·i·nine (as'ə nīn') *adj.* [**< L** *asinus*, ass] like an ass; stupid; silly —**as'i·nine'ly** *adv.* —**as'i·nin'i·ty** (-nīn'ə tē) *n.*

ask (ask) *vt.* [**OE** *āscian*] 1 to use words in seeking the answer to (a question) 2 to inquire of (a person) 3 to request or demand 4 to invite —*vi.* 1 to make a request (*for*) 2 to inquire (*about* or *after*) —**ask'er** *n.*

a·skance (ə skans') *adv.* [**ME**] 1 with a sideways glance 2 with suspicion, disapproval, etc.

a·skew (ə skyōō') *adv.* to one side; awry —*adj.* on one side; awry

asking price the price asked by a seller, esp. as a basis for bargaining

a·slant (ə slant') *adv.* on a slant —*prep.* on a slant across —*adj.* slanting

a·sleep (ə slēp') *adj.* 1 sleeping 2 inactive; dull 3 numb 4 dead —*adv.* into a sleeping condition

a·so·cial (ā sō'shəl) *adj.* 1 avoiding contact with others 2 selfish

asp (asp) *n.* [**< Gr** *aspis*] a poisonous snake of Africa, Arabia, etc.

as·par·a·gus (ə spar'ə gəs, -sper'-) *n.* [**< Gr** *asparagos*] 1 a plant of the lily family, with edible shoots 2 these shoots

as·par·tame (as'pər tām') *n.* an artificial, low-calorie sweetener, used in soft drinks, candy, etc.

as·pect (as'pekt') *n.* [**< L** *ad-*, to + *specere*, to look] 1 the way one appears 2 the appearance of something from a specific position or viewpoint 3 a side facing in a given direction

as·pen (as'pən) *n.* [**OE** *æspe*] a poplar tree whose leaves flutter in the least breeze

as·per·i·ty (ə sper'ə tē) *n.*, *pl.* **-ties** [**< L** *asper*, rough] 1 roughness or harshness 2 sharpness of temper

as·per·sion (ə spar'zhən) *n.* a damaging or disparaging remark; slander

as·phalt (as'fôlt') *n.* [**< Gr** *asphaltos*] a brown or black tarlike substance mixed with sand or gravel and used for paving, roofing, etc. —*vt.* to pave, roof, etc. with asphalt

as·pho·del (as'fə del') *n.* [**< Gr** *asphodelos*] a plant of the lily family, having white or yellow flowers

as·phyx·i·ate (as fik'sē āt') *vt.*, *vi.* **-at'ed**, **-at'ing** [**< Gr** *a-*, not + *sphyzein*, to throb] 1 to make or become unconscious from lack of oxygen in the blood 2 to suffocate —**as·phyx'i·a'tion** *n.*

as·pic (as'pik') *n.* [**< OFr** *aspe*, *asp*] a cold jelly of meat juice, tomato juice, etc., served as a garnish or in a mold

as·pi·rant (as'pə rənt, ə spī'-) *adj.* aspiring —*n.* one who aspires

as·pi·rate (as'pə rāt'; *for n.*, **-pər it**) *vt.* **-rat'ed**, **-rat'ing** 1 to begin (a word) with the sound of English (h) 2 to follow (a consonant) with an audible puff of breath 3 to suck in or draw in 4 *Med.* to remove (fluid, etc.) by suction — *n.* an aspirated sound

as·pi·ra·tion (as'pə rā'shən) *n.* 1 *a*) strong desire or ambition, as for advancement *b*) the thing so desired 2 a drawing in by breathing or suction 3 *Med.* removal of fluid, etc. by suction

as'pi·ra'tor *n.* an apparatus using suction to remove air, fluids, etc.

as·pire (ə spīr') *vi.* **-pired'**, **-pir'ing** [**< L** *ad-*, to + *spirare*, breathe] to be ambitious (*to get or do something*); seek (*after*)

as·pi·rin (as'pə rin', -prin') *n.* [**Ger**] 1 a white, crystalline powder used for reducing fever, relieving pain, etc. 2 a tablet of this

ass (as) *n.* [**< L** *asinus*] 1 a horselike animal having long ears and a short mane 2 a stupid or silly person

as-sail (ə sāl') *vt.* [**< L** *ad-*, to + *salire*, to leap] 1 to attack physically and violently 2 to attack with arguments, etc. —**as-sail'a-ble** *adj.*

as-sail'ant (-ənt) *n.* an attacker

as-sas-sin (ə sas'ən) *n.* [**< Ar** *hash-shāshīn*, hashish users] a murderer who strikes suddenly; now, esp., the murderer of a politically important or prominent person

as-sas'si-nate' (-āt') *vt.* -nat'ed, -nat'ing to murder as an assassin does —**as-sas'si-na'tion** *n.*

as-sault (ə sôlt') *n.* [**< L** *ad-*, to + *salire*, to leap] 1 a violent attack 2 *euphemism* for RAPE¹ 3 *Law* an unlawful threat or attempt to harm another physically —*vt., vi.* to make an assault (upon)

assault and battery *Law* the carrying out of threatened physical harm

as-say (as'ā, a sâ'; *for v.* a sâ') *n.* [**< OFr** *essai*, trial] 1 a testing 2 an analysis of the ingredients of an ore, drug, etc. —*vt.* 1 to make an assay of; test 2 to try; attempt —*vi.* to be shown by assay to have a specified proportion of something —**as-say'er** *n.*

as-sem-blage (ə sem'blij; *for 3, also* ä' sem blāzh') *n.* 1 an assembling 2 a group of persons or things gathered together 3 *Art* things assembled in a sculptured collage

as-sem-ble (ə sem'bəl) *vt., vi.* -bled, -bling [**< L** *ad-*, to + *simul*, together] 1 to gather into a group; collect 2 to fit or put together the parts of —**as-sem'bler** *n.*

as-sem'bly (-blē) *n., pl.* -blies 1 an assembling 2 a group of persons gathered together 3 *a*) a legislative body *b*) [A-] the lower house of some state legislatures 4 a fitting together of parts to make a whole

assembly line in many factories, a method whereby each worker performs a specific task in assembling the work as it is passed along

as-sem'bly-man (-mən) *n., pl.* -men a member of a legislative assembly —**as-sem'bly-wom'an**, *pl.* -wom'en, *fem.n.*

as-sent (ə sent') *vi.* [**< L** *ad-*, to + *sentire*, to feel] to express acceptance; agree (*to*) —*n.* consent or agreement

as-sert (ə sɜrt') *vt.* [**< L** *ad-*, to + *serere*, join] 1 to declare; affirm 2 to maintain or defend (rights, etc.) —**assert oneself** to insist on one's rights, or on being recognized —**as-sert'er** or **as-ser'tor** *n.*

as-ser-tion (ə sɜr'shən) *n.* 1 an asserting 2 a positive statement

as-ser-tive (ə sɜrt'iv) *adj.* persistently, forcefully, or boldly positive or confident —**as-ser'tive-ly** *adv.* —**as-ser'tive-ness** *n.*

as-sess (ə ses') *vt.* [**< L** *ad-*, to + *sedere*, sit] 1 to set an estimated value on (property, etc.) for taxation 2 to set the amount of (a tax, fine, etc.) 3 to impose a tax, etc. on 4 to judge the worth or

importance of —**as-sess'ment** *n.* —**as-ses'sor** *n.*

as-set (as'et) *n.* [**< L** *ad*, to + *satis*, enough] 1 anything owned that has value 2 a desirable thing [charm is an *asset*] 3 [*pl.*] the accounting entries showing the resources of a person or business 4 [*pl.*] *Law* property available to pay debts

as-sev-er-ate (ə sev'ə rāt') *vt.* -at'ed, -at'ing [**< L** *ad-*, to + *severus*, earnest] to state positively; assert —**as-sev'er-a'tion** *n.*

as-sid-u-ous (ə sij'oo əs) *adj.* [**< L** *assidere*, to assist] diligent; persevering; careful —**as-si-du-i-ty** (as'ə dyoo'ə tē), *pl.* -ties, *n.* —**as-sid'u-ous-ly** *adv.* —**as-sid'u-ous-ness** *n.*

as-sign (ə sīn') *vt.* [**< L** *ad-*, to + *signare*, to sign] 1 to set apart or mark for a specific purpose; designate 2 to appoint, as to a duty 3 to give out as a task; allot 4 to ascribe; attribute 5 *Law* to transfer (a right, etc.) —**as-sign'a-ble** *adj.* —**as-sign'er** or *Law* **as-sign-or** (ə sīn'ôr') *n.*

as-sig-na-tion (as'ig nā'shən) *n.* an appointment to meet, esp. one made secretly by lovers, or the meeting itself

as-sign-ment (ə sīn'mənt) *n.* 1 an assigning or being assigned 2 anything assigned

as-sim-i-late (ə sim'ə lāt') *vt.* -lat'ed, -lat'ing [**< L** *ad-*, to + *similare*, make similar] 1 to absorb and incorporate 2 to make like or alike: with *to* —*vi.* 1 to become like or alike 2 to become absorbed and incorporated —**as-sim'i-la'tion** *n.*

as-sist (ə sist') *vt., vi.* [**< L** *ad-*, to + *sistere*, make stand] to help; aid —*n.* an instance or act of helping —**assist at** to be present at; attend

as-sist-ance (ə sis'təns) *n.* help; aid

as-sist'ant (-tənt) *adj.* assisting; helping —*n.* one who assists; helper; aid

assisted living a living arrangement providing assistance to elderly or disabled persons

as-siz-es (ə sīz'iz) *pl.n.* [**see** ASSESS] 1 court sessions held periodically in each county of England 2 the time or place of these

assn *abbrev.* association

assoc *abbrev.* 1 associate(s) 2 association

as-so-ci-ate (ə sō'shē āt', -sē; *for n. & adj., -it*) *vt.* -at'ed, -at'ing [**< L** *ad-*, to + *socius*, companion] 1 to connect; combine; join 2 to bring into relationship as partner, etc. 3 to connect in the mind —*vi.* to join (*with*) as a partner, friend, etc. —*n.* 1 a friend, partner, co-worker, etc. 2 a degree granted by a junior college —*adj.* 1 joined with others in work, etc. 2 having less than full status

as-so'ci-a'tion *n.* 1 an associating or being associated 2 fellowship; partnership 3 an organization, society, etc. 4 a mental connection between ideas, etc.

association football soccer

as-so'ci-a'tive (-shē āt'iv, -sē; -shə tiv) *adj.* 1 of, by, or causing association 2 *Math.* producing the same result

regardless of how the elements are grouped

as·so·nance (as'ə nans) *n.* [*< L ad-, to + sonare, to sound*] 1 likeness of sound 2 a partial rhyme made by repetition of a vowel sound —**as'so·nant** *adj., n.*

as·sort (ə sôrt') *vt.* [*ult. < L ad-, to + sors, lot, fate*] to sort or classify

as·sort'ed *adj.* 1 various; miscellaneous 2 sorted; classified

as·sort'ment *n.* 1 an assorting 2 a miscellaneous collection; variety

asst *abbrev.* assistant

as·suage (ə swāj') *vt.* -suaged', -suag'ing [*< L ad-, to + suavis, sweet*] 1 to lessen (pain, distress, etc.) 2 to calm (anger, etc.) 3 to satisfy or slake (thirst, etc.)

as·sume (ə sūm') *vt.* -sumed', -sum'ing [*< L ad-, to + sumere, to take*] 1 to take on (the appearance, role, etc. of) 2 to seize; usurp 3 to undertake 4 to take for granted; suppose 5 to pretend to have; feign —**as·sum'a·ble** *adj.*

as·sumed' *adj.* 1 pretended; fictitious 2 taken for granted

as·sump·tion (ə sump'shən) *n.* 1 [A-] *R.C.Ch.* a) the ascent of the Virgin Mary into heaven b) a feast on Aug. 15 celebrating this 2 an assuming 3 a supposition —**as·sump'tive** *adj.*

as·sur·ance (ə shoor'əns) *n.* 1 an assuring or being assured 2 a promise, guarantee, etc. 3 self-confidence 4 [Chiefly Brit.] insurance

as·sure (ə shoor') *vt.* -sured', -sur'ing [*< L ad-, to + securus, secure*] 1 to make (a person) sure of something 2 to give confidence to; reassure 3 to tell or promise confidently 4 to guarantee 5 [Chiefly Brit.] to insure against loss

as·sured' *adj.* 1 made sure; certain 2 confident; sure of oneself —**as·sured·ly** (ə shoor'id lē) *adv.*

As·syr·i·a (ə sir'ē ə) ancient empire in SW Asia —**As·syr'i·an** *adj., n.*

as·ter (as'tər) *n.* [*< Gr astēr, star*] any of several plants of the composite family with variously colored daisylike flowers

as·ter·isk (as'tər isk') *n.* [*< Gr dim. of astēr, star*] a starlike sign (*) used in printing to mark footnotes, etc.

a·stern (ə stərn') *adv.* 1 behind a ship or aircraft 2 AFT 3 backward

as·ter·oid (as'tər oid') *n.* [see ASTER & -OID] any of the small planets in orbits mainly between Mars and Jupiter

asth·ma (az'mə) *n.* [Gr] a chronic disorder characterized by wheezing, coughing, difficulty in breathing, etc. —**asth·mat·ic** (az mat'ik) *adj., n.*

a·stig·ma·tism (ə stig'mə·tiz'əm) *n.* [*< Gr a-, without + stigma, a mark + -ISM*] an irregularity in the lens of the eye, that prevents proper focusing of light rays, causing distortion, poor eyesight, etc. —**as·tig·mat·ic** (as'tig mat'ik) *adj.*

a·stil·be (ə stil'bē) *n.* a plant having spikes of white, pink, or red flowers

a·stir (ə stər') *adv., adj.* 1 in motion 2 out of bed

as·ton·ish (ə stän'ish) *vt.* [*< L ex-, intens. + tonare, to thunder*] to fill with sudden wonder; amaze —**is·ton'ish·ing**

adj. —**as·ton'ish·ing·ly** *adv.* —**as·ton'ish·ment** *n.*

as·tound (ə stound') *vt.* [see prec.] to astonish greatly —**as·tound'ing** *adj.* —**as·tound'ing·ly** *adv.*

a·strad·dle (ə strad'l) *adv.* in a straddling position

as·tra·khan (as'trə kən) *n.* [after *Astrakhan*, Russ city] loosely curled fur from young lamb pelts, or a wool fabric resembling this

as·tral (as'trəl) *adj.* [*< Gr astron, star*] of, from, or like the stars

a·stray (ə strā') *adv., adj.* [ME *< pp. of OFr estraiier, stray*] 1 off the right path 2 in error

a·stride (ə strid') *adv.* with a leg on either side —*prep.* 1 with a leg on either side of 2 extending over or across

as·trin·gent (ə strin'jənt) *adj.* [*< L ad-, to + stringere, to draw tight*] 1 that contracts body tissue and stops secretions 2 harsh; biting —*n.* an astringent substance —**as·trin'gen·cy** *n.*

astro- [*< Gr astron, star*] *combining form* star or stars [*astrophysics*]

as·tro·bi·ol·o·gy (as'trō bī əl'ə jē) *n.* the branch of biology that investigates the existence of living organisms on planets other than earth

as'tro·dy·nam'ics *n.* the branch of dynamics dealing with the motion and gravitation of objects in space

as·trol·o·gy (ə strəl'ə jē) *n.* [*< Gr astron, star + -logia, -LOGY*] a method or theory based on the assumption that the positions of the moon, sun, and stars affect human affairs and can be used to foretell the future —**as·trol'o·ger** *n.* —**as·tro·log·i·cal** (as'trə lāj'i kəl) *adj.*

as·tro·naut (as'trə nôt') *n.* [*< Fr < Gr astron, star + nautēs, sailor*] one trained to make flights into outer space —**as'tro·nau'tics** *n.*

as·tro·nom·i·cal (as'trə nām'i kəl) *adj.* 1 of astronomy 2 extremely large: said as of numbers Also **as'tro·nom'ic** —**as'tro·nom'i·cal·ly** *adv.*

astronomical unit a unit of length based on the mean distance of the earth from the sun, c. 149.6 million km (c. 93 million mi.)

as·tron·o·my (ə strän'ə mē) *n.* [*< Gr astron, star + nomos, law*] the science that studies the origin, size, motion, etc. of stars, planets, etc. —**as·tron'o·mer** *n.*

as·tro·phys·ics (as'trō fiz'iks) *n.* the branch of astronomy dealing with the physical properties of the universe —**as'tro·phys'i·cist** (-ə sist) *n.*

As'tro·Turf' (-turf') *trademark* for a grasslike synthetic carpet used in stadiums, etc.

as·tute (ə stōt') *adj.* [*< L astus, craft, cunning*] clever or shrewd; keen —**as·tute'ly** *adv.* —**as·tute'ness** *n.*

a·sun·der (ə sun'dər) *adv.* [*< OE on sundran*] 1 into pieces 2 apart in direction or position

a·sy·lum (ə sī'ləm) *n.* [*< Gr a-, without +*

sylon, right of seizure] 1 a place of safety; refuge 2 an institution for the care of mentally ill, aged, or poor people: a term now rarely used

a-sym-me-try (ā sim'ə trē) *n.* lack of symmetry —**a-sym-met-ri-cal** (ā'sə me'tri kəl) *adj.* —**a-sym-met'ri-cal-ly** *adv.*

a-symp-to-mat-ic (ā'simp tə ma'tik) *adj.* without symptoms

at (at) *prep.* [**< OE** *æt*] 1 on; in; near; by [at the office] 2 to or toward [look at her] 3 from [visible at one mile] 4 attending [at a party] 5 busy with [at work] 6 in the state or manner of [at war, at a trot] 7 because of [sad at his death] 8 with reference to [good at tennis] 9 in the amount, etc. of [at five cents each] 10 on or near the time or age of [at noon, at twenty-one] 11 attacking, etc. [they're at him again]

at-a-vism (at'ə viz'əm) *n.* [**< L** *at-*, beyond + *avus*, grandfather] resemblance or reversion to a characteristic of a remote ancestor —**at'a-vis'tic** *adj.*

a-tax-i-a (ə tak'sē ə) *n.* [**< Gr** *a-*, not + *tassein*, arrange] an inability to coordinate one's movements, as in walking —**a-tax'ic** *adj.*, *n.*

ate (āt; *Brit. or U.S. dial., et*) *vt., vi. pt. of* EAT

-ate¹ (āt; for 2, it) *suffix* 1 to become, cause to become, form, provide with [maturate, ulcerate] 2 of or characteristic of, characterized by, having [passionate]

-ate² (āt, it) *suffix* an office, function, agent, or official [directorate]

at-el-ier (at'l yā') *n.* [**Fr**] a studio or workshop, esp. of an artist

Ath-a-bas-kan or **Ath-a-bas-can** (ath'ə bas'kən) *n.* a family of North American Indian languages, including Navajo — *adj.* designating or of these languages or the peoples that speak them

a-the-ism (ā'thē iz'əm) *n.* [**< Gr** *a-*, without + *theos*, god] the belief that there is no God —**a'the-ist** *n.* —**a'the-is'tic** *adj.*

A-the-na (ə thē'nə) *n.* the Greek goddess of wisdom, skills, and warfare

Ath-ens (ath'ənz) capital of Greece, in the SE part: pop. 772,000 —**A-the-ni-an** (ə thē'nē ən) *adj.*, *n.*

ath-er-o-scle-ro-sis (ath'ər ō'sklə rō'sis) *n.* [**< Gr** *athērōma*, grainy tumor + *SCLEROSIS*] formation of fatty nodules on hardening artery walls

a-thirst (ə thurst') *adj.* 1 [Archaic] thirsty 2 eager; longing (for)

ath-lete (ath'lēt') *n.* [**< Gr** *athlon*, a prize] a person trained in exercises or games requiring strength, skill, stamina, etc.

athlete's foot ringworm of the feet

ath-let-ic (ath let'ik) *adj.* 1 of or like athletes or athletics 2 physically strong, active, fit, etc. —**ath-let'i-cal-ly** *adv.* —**ath-let'i-cism** (-ə siz'əm) *n.*

ath-let'ics *pl.n.* [sometimes with *sing. v.*] athletic sports, games, etc.

-a-thon (ə thän') [**< (MAR)** *ATHON*] *suffix* an event marked by length or endurance [walkathon]

a-thwart (ə thwôrt') *prep.* 1 across 2 against —*adv.* crosswise

a-tilt (ə tilt') *adj., adv.* tilted

-a-tion (ā'shən) [**< Fr or L**] *suffix* the act, condition, or result of [alteration]

-a-tive (ə tiv, āt'iv) [**< Fr or L**] *suffix* of or relating to, serving to [informative]

At-lan-ta (at lan'tə) capital of Georgia: pop. 394,000

At-lan-tic (at lan'tik) ocean touching the Americas to the west and Europe and Africa to the east

Atlantic City city in SE New Jersey: an ocean resort: pop. 38,000

At-lan-tis (at lan'tis) *n.* [**< Gr**] legendary sunken continent in the Atlantic

At-las (at'ləs) *n.* 1 *Gr. Myth.* a giant who supports the heavens on his shoulders 2 [a-] a book of maps

ATM (ā'tē em') *n.* [**a**(utomated) **t**(eller) **m**(achine)] a computer terminal that allows a bank customer to deposit, withdraw, or transfer funds automatically

at-mos-phere (at'məs fir') *n.* [**< Gr** *atmos*, vapor + *sphaira*, sphere] 1 the air surrounding the earth 2 a pervading mood or spirit 3 the general tone or effect 4 a unit of pressure equal to 101,325 newtons per sq. m —**at'mos-pher'ic** (-fer'ik, -fir'-) *adj.* —**at'mos-pher'i-cal-ly** *adv.*

at-oll (a'tôl') *n.* [**< Malayalam** *atolū*] a ring-shaped coral island surrounding a lagoon

at-om (at'əm) *n.* [**< Gr** *a-*, not + *temnein*, to cut] 1 a tiny particle; jot 2 *Chem., Physics* any of the smallest particles of an element that combine with similar particles of other elements to form molecules —**the atom** nuclear energy

atom bomb ATOMIC BOMB

a-tom-ic (ə tām'ik) *adj.* 1 of an atom or atoms 2 of or using atomic energy or atomic bombs 3 tiny —**a-tom'i-cal-ly** *adv.*

atomic bomb an extremely destructive bomb whose power results from a chain reaction of nuclear fission

atomic energy NUCLEAR ENERGY

atomic number *Chem.* a number indicating the number of protons in the nucleus of an atom of an element

atomic weight *Chem.* the weight of one atom of an element based upon the average weight of the element's isotopes

at-om-iz-er (at'əm ī zər) *n.* a device used to shoot out a fine spray, as of medicine or perfume

a-to-nal-i-ty (ā'tō nal'ə tē) *n.* *Music* the organization of tones without relation to a key —**a-ton-al** (ā tōn'al) *adj.* —**a-ton'al-ly** *adv.*

a-tone (ə tōn') *vi.* **a-toned', a-ton'ing** [**< ME** *at one*, in accord] to make amends (for wrongdoing, etc.)

a-tone'ment *n.* 1 an atoning 2 amends —**the Atonement** *Theol.* the redeeming of humanity by the death of Jesus

a-top (ə tăt') *adv.* on or at the top — *prep.* on the top of

a-top-ic (ā tăt'ik) *adj.* of allergic reac-

tions, as a type of dermatitis, thought to be inherited

-a-to-ry (ə tōr'ē) [**< L**] *suffix* -ORY

ATP (ā'tē'pē') *n.* [**a**(denosine) **t**(ri)p(hosphate)] an organic compound present in, and vital to, all living cells

a-tri-um (ā'trē əm) *n., pl. a'tri-a* (-ə) or **a'tri-ums** [**L**] 1 the central court or main room of an ancient Roman house 2 a court or entrance hall, usually of more than one story 3 either of the heart's upper chambers

a-tro-cious (ə trō'shəs) *adj.* [**< L** *atrox*, fierce] 1 very cruel, evil, etc. 2 very bad or unpleasant; offensive —**a-tro'cious-ly** *adv.* —**a-tro'cious-ness** *n.*

a-troc-i-ty (ə trās'ə tē) *n., pl. -ties* 1 atrocious behavior 2 an atrocious act 3 [**Inf.**] a very displeasing thing

at-ro-phy (a'trə fē) *n.* [**< Gr** *a-*, not + *trephein*, to feed] a wasting away or failure to grow, esp. of body tissue, an organ, etc. —**vi.** **-phied**, **-phy-ing** to undergo atrophy —**vt.** to cause atrophy in

at-ro-pine (at'rə pēn', -pin') *n.* [**< Gr** *Atropos*, one of the Fates + **-INE**³] an alkaloid obtained from belladonna, used to relieve spasms, etc.

at-tach (ə tach') *vt.* [**< OFr** *estache*, a post, stake] 1 to fasten by sticking, tying, etc. 2 to join: often used reflexively 3 to connect by ties of affection, etc. 4 to add (a signature, etc.) 5 to ascribe 6 *Law* to take (property) by writ —**at-tach'a-ble** *adj.*

at-ta-ché (at'ə shā'; chiefly *Brit* ə tash'ā) *n.* [**Fr**: see *prec.*] a member of an ambassador's diplomatic staff

attaché case a briefcase

at-tach'ment *n.* 1 an attaching or being attached 2 anything that attaches; fastening 3 devotion 4 anything attached 5 an accessory for an electrical appliance, etc. 6 *Law* a taking of property into custody

at-tack (ə tak') *vt.* [**< It** *attaccare*] 1 to use force against in order to harm 2 to speak or write against 3 to undertake vigorously 4 to begin acting upon harmfully —**vi.** to make an assault —*n.* 1 an attacking 2 any hostile action, esp. with troops 3 the onset of a disease 4 a beginning of a task, undertaking, etc. —**at-tack'er** *n.*

at-tain (ə tān') *vt.* [**< L** *ad-*, to + *tangere*, to touch] 1 to gain; accomplish; achieve 2 to reach; arrive at —**at-tain'a-bil'i-ty** *n.* —**at-tain'a-ble** *adj.*

at-tain'der (-dər) *n.* [**see** *prec.*] loss of civil rights and property of one sentenced to death or outlawed

at-tar (at'ər) *n.* [**< Ar** *'itr*, perfume] a perfume made from flower petals, esp. of roses (*attar of roses*)

at-tempt (ə tempt') *vt.* [**< L** *ad-*, to + *temptare*, to try] to try to do, get, etc. —*n.* 1 a try; endeavor 2 an attack, as on a person's life

at-tend (ə tend') *vt.* [**< L** *ad-*, to + *tendere*, to stretch] 1 [**Now Rare**] to take care of 2 to go with 3 to accompany as a result 4 to be present at —**vi.** 1 to pay attention 2 to wait (*on* or *upon*) 3 to apply oneself (*to*) 4 to give

the required care (*to*)

at-tend'ance *n.* 1 an attending 2 the number of persons attending

at-tend'ant *adj.* 1 attending or serving 2 being present 3 accompanying —*n.* one who attends or serves

at-ten-tion (ə ten'shən) *n.* [**see** **ATTEND**] 1 mental concentration or readiness 2 notice or observation 3 care or consideration 4 an act of courtesy or devotion: *usually used in pl.* 5 the erect posture of soldiers ready for a command

attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder a mental disorder marked by inability to concentrate, impulsiveness, etc.

at-ten'tive (-tiv) *adj.* 1 paying attention 2 courteous, devoted, etc. —**at-ten'tive-ly** *adv.* —**at-ten'tive-ness** *n.*

at-ten-u-ate (ə ten'yōō āt') *vt.* **-at'ed**, **-at'ing** [**< L** *ad-*, to + *tenuis*, thin] 1 to make thin 2 to dilute 3 to lessen or weaken —**vi.** to become thin, weak, etc. —**at-ten'u-a'tion** *n.* —**at-ten'u-a'tor** *n.*

at-test (ə test') *vt.* [**< L** *ad-*, to + *testari*, to bear witness] 1 to declare to be true or genuine 2 to certify, as by oath 3 to serve as proof of —**vi.** to bear witness (*to*) —**at-tes-ta-tion** (at'əs tā'shən) *n.*

at-tic (at'ik) *n.* [**< Gr** *Attikos*, of Attica (ancient Gr state): with reference to architectural style] the room or space just below the roof; garret

At-ti-la (at'tl ə, ə til'ə) A.D. 406?-453; king of the Huns: called *Attila the Hun*

at-tire (ə tīr') *vt.* **-tired'**, **-tir'ing** [**< OFr** *a*, to + *tire*, order, row] to dress, esp. in fine garments; clothe —*n.* clothes, esp. fine or rich apparel

at-ti-tude (at'ə tōōd') *n.* [**ult. < L** *aptus*, apt] 1 a bodily posture showing mood, action, etc. 2 a manner showing one's feelings or thoughts 3 one's disposition, opinion, etc. 4 [**Slang**] a quarrelsome or haughty temperament or manner

at-ti-tu-di-nize (at'ə tōōd''n īz') *vi.* **-nized'**, **-niz'ing** to pose for effect

Attn or **attn** *abbrev.* attention

at-tor-ney (ə-tər'nē) *n., pl. -neys* [**< OFr** *a-*, to + *torner*, to turn] any person legally empowered to act for another; esp., a lawyer

attorney at law a lawyer

attorney general *pl.* attorneys general or attorney generals the chief law officer of a government

at-tract (ə trakt') *vt.* [**< L** *ad-*, to + *trahere*, to draw] 1 to draw to itself or oneself 2 to get the admiration, attention, etc. of; allure —**vi.** to be attractive —**at-tract'a-ble** *adj.*

at-trac-tion (ə trak'shən) *n.* 1 an attracting or being attracted 2 power to attract; esp., charm 3 anything that attracts 4 *Physics* the mutual tendency of bodies to draw together

at-trac'tive (-tiv) *adj.* that attracts; esp., pleasing, charming, pretty, etc. —**at-trac'tive-ly** *adv.* —**at-trac'tive-ness** *n.*

at-trib-ute (ə trib'yōōt; *for n.* a'trə byōōt') *vt.* **-ut-ed**, **-ut-ing** [**< L** *ad-*, to +

tribuere, assign] to think of as belonging to a certain person or thing —*n.* a characteristic or quality of a person or thing —*at·trib'ut·a·ble* *adj.* —*at·tri·bu·tion* (ə'trə byoo'shən) *n.*

at·trib·u·tive (ə trib'yoo tiv) *adj.* 1 attributing 2 preceding the noun it modifies: said of an adjective —*at·trib'u·tive·ly* *adv.*

at·tri·tion (ə trish'an) *n.* [*< L ad-*, to + *terere*, to rub] 1 a wearing away by or as by friction 2 a normal loss of personnel, as by retirement

at·tune (ə too'n') *vt.* -tuned', -tun'ing 1 to tune 2 to bring into harmony

atty *abbrev.* attorney

ATV (ā'tē've') *n., pl.* ATVs [*A*(ll-) *T*(errain) *V*(ehicle)] a small motor vehicle for traveling over rough ground, snow and ice, etc.

a·twit·ter (ə twit'ər) *adv., adj.* twittering

a·typ·i·cal (ā tip'i kəl) *adj.* not typical; abnormal —*a·typ'i·cal·ly* *adv.*

Au [*L aurum*] *Chem. symbol for gold*

au·burn (ô'bərn) *adj., n.* [*< L albus*, white: infl. by ME *brun*, brown] reddish brown

Auck·land (ôk'lənd) seaport in N New Zealand: pop. 910,000

au·ction (ôk'shən) *n.* [*< L augere*, to increase] a public sale of items, one by one, to the highest bidder for each item —*vt.* to sell at auction —*au·ction off* to sell at auction —*au·ction·eer'* *n.*

au·da·cious (ô dā'shəs) *adj.* [*< L audax*, bold] 1 bold; daring 2 too bold; brazen; insolent —*au·da'cious·ly* *adv.* —*au·da'cious·ness* *n.*

au·dac·i·ty (ô das'ə tē) *n.* 1 bold courage 2 insolence; impudence 3 *pl.* -ties an audacious act or remark

au·di·ble (ô'də bəl) *adj.* [*< L audire*, hear] loud enough to be heard —*au'di·bil'i·ty* (-bil'ə tē) *n.* —*au'di·bly* *adv.*

au·di·ence (ô'dē əns) *n.* [*< L audire*, hear] 1 those assembled to hear and see something 2 all those reached by a TV or radio program, book, etc. 3 a hearing, esp. a formal interview

au·di·o (ô'dē ô') *adj.* [*< L audire*, hear] 1 of frequencies corresponding to audible sound waves 2 of sound reproduction, as of the sound phase of television

au'di·o·book' *n.* a recording of a reading of a book, as by the author

au·di·ol·o·gy (ô'dē əl'ə jē) *n.* evaluation and treatment of hearing defects —*au'di·ol'o·gist* *n.*

au'di·om'e·ter (-äm'ət ər) *n.* an instrument for measuring the sharpness and range of hearing —*au'di·o·met'ric* (-ô me'trik) *adj.*

au·di·o·phile (ô'dē ô fil') *n.* a devotee of high-fidelity sound reproduction, as from recordings

au·di·o·vis·u·al (ô'dē ô vizh'oo əl) *adj.* 1 involving both hearing and sight 2 of teaching aids such as films and recordings

au·dit (ôd'it) *n.* [*< L auditus*, a hearing] a formal checking of financial records

—*vt., vi.* 1 to check (accounts, etc.) 2 to attend (a college class) as a listener receiving no credit

au·di·tion (ô dish'an) *n.* [*< L audire*, hear] a hearing to try out an actor, singer, etc. —*vt., vi.* to try out in an audition

au·di·tor (ô'dit ər) *n.* 1 a listener 2 one who audits accounts 3 one who audits classes

au·di·to·ri·um (ô'də tôr'ē əm) *n.* 1 a room where an audience sits 2 a building or hall for speeches, concerts, etc.

au·di·to·ry (ô'də tôr'ē) *adj.* of hearing or the sense of hearing

auf Wie·der·seh·en (əuf vē'dər zā'an) [*Ger*] goodbye

au·ger (ô'gər) *n.* [*< OE nafu*, hub (of a wheel) + *gar*, a spear] a tool for boring holes in wood

aught (ôt) *n.* [*< OE a*, ever + *wilht*, creature] 1 anything whatever 2 [*< (N)AUGHT*] a zero

aug·ment (ôg ment') *vt., vi.* [*< L augere*, to increase] to make or become greater —*aug'men·ta'tion* *n.* —*aug·ment'er* *n.*

au gra·tin (ô grat'n, -grät'-) [*Fr*] with a crust of bread crumbs and grated cheese

au·gur (ô'gər) *n.* [*L*, priest at fertility rites] a prophet; soothsayer —*vt., vi.* 1 to prophesy 2 to be an omen (of) —*augur ill* (or *well*) to be a bad (or good) omen

au·gu·ry (ô'gyoo rē) *n.* 1 the practice of divination 2 *pl.* -ries an omen; portent

au·gust (ô gúst') *adj.* [*L augustus*] inspiring awe; imposing —*au·gust'ly* *adv.* —*au·gust'ness* *n.*

Au·gust (ô'gəst) *n.* [*< L Augustus*] the eighth month of the year, having 31 days: *abbrev.* *Aug*

Au·gus·ta (ô gus'tə) capital of Maine: pop. 21,000

Au·gus·tine (ô'gəs tēn', ə gus'tin), Saint (A.D. 354-430); early Christian church father

Au·gus·tus (ô gus'təs) 63 B.C.-A.D. 14; 1st Rom. emperor (27 B.C.-A.D. 14)

au jus (ô zhoo', ô joo's') [*Fr*] served in its natural juices: said of meat

auk (ôk) *n.* [*< ON alka*] a diving bird of northern seas, with webbed feet and short wings used as paddles

auld lang syne (ôld' lan' zīn') [*Scot*, lit., old long since] the good old days

aunt (ant, änt) *n.* [*< L amita*] 1 a sister of one's mother or father 2 the wife of one's uncle

au poivre (ô pwäv'rə) [*Fr*] with crushed black peppercorns and a sauce

au·ra (ô'rə) *n., pl.* -ras or -rae (-rē) [*< Gr*] 1 an invisible emanation 2 a particular quality surrounding a person or thing

au·ral (ô'rəl) *adj.* [*< L auris*, ear] of the ear or the sense of hearing

au·re·ole (ô'rē ôl') *n.* [*< L aurum*, gold] 1 a halo 2 a corona around the sun

Au·re·o·my·cin (ô'rē ô mī'sin) *trade-mark* for an antibiotic used to treat infections and viruses

au re·voir (ô'rə vwär') [*Fr*] goodbye

au·ri·cle (ô'ri kəl) *n.* [*< L dim. of auris*,

ear] the outer part of the ear
Au-ro-ra¹ (ô rôr'ə) *n.*, *pl.* for 2 & 3 -ras or -rae (-ē) 1 the Rom. goddess of dawn 2 [a-] the dawn 3 [a-] a luminous band in the night sky
Au-ro-ra² (ô rôr'ə) city in central Colorado: pop. 222,000
aurora aus-tra-lis (ô strā'lis) the aurora in the sky of the S Hemisphere
aurora bo-re-al-is (bôr'ē al'is) the aurora in the sky of the N Hemisphere
aus-cul-ta-tion (ôs'kəl tā'shən) *n.* [*L auscultare*, to listen] a listening, often with a stethoscope, to sounds in the chest, abdomen, etc. so as to determine the condition of the heart, lungs, etc. — **aus'cul-tate'**, -**tat'ed**, -**tat'ing**, *vt.*, *vi.*
aus-pice (ôs'pis) *n.*, *pl.* -**pi-ces** (-pə siz, -sēz') [*< L auspicium*, omen] 1 an omen 2 a favorable omen or sign 3 [*pl.*] sponsorship; patronage
aus-pi-cious (ôs pish'əs) *adj.* 1 favorable; propitious 2 successful — **aus-pi'cious-ly** *adv.* — **aus-pi'cious-ness** *n.*
Aus-sie (ôs'ē) *adj.*, *n.* [*Inf.*] Australian
Aus-ten (ôs'tən), Jane 1775-1817; Eng. novelist
aus-tere (ô stir') *adj.* [*< Gr austēros*, dry] 1 stern; severe 2 showing strict self-control; ascetic 3 very plain; lacking ornament — **aus-tere'ly** *adv.*
aus-ter-i-ty (ô ster'ə tē) *n.*, *pl.* -**ties** 1 sternness 2 an austere practice, act, or manner 3 tightened economy
Aus-tin (ôs'tən) capital of Texas, in the central part: pop. 466,000
aus-tral (ôs'trəl) *adj.* [*< L auster*, the south] southern
Aus-tral-ia (ô strāl'yə) 1 island continent between the S Pacific and Indian oceans 2 country comprising this continent & Tasmania: 2,966,150 sq. mi.; pop. 16,849,000 — **Aus-tral'i-an** *adj.*, *n.*
Aus-tri-a (ôs'trē ə) country in central Europe: 32,378 sq. mi.; pop. 7,796,000 — **Aus'tri-an** *adj.*, *n.*
au-then-tic (ô then'tik) *adj.* [*< Gr authentikos*, genuine] 1 credible, reliable, etc.: said as of a news report 2 genuine; real — **au-then'ti-cal-ly** *adv.* — **au-then-tic-i-ty** (ô'thən tis'ə tē) *n.*
au-then'ti-cate' (-ti kāt') *vt.* -**cat'ed**, -**cat'ing** 1 to make authentic or valid 2 to verify 3 to prove to be genuine — **au-then'ti-ca'tion** *n.*
au-thor (ô'thər) *n.* [*< L augere*, to increase] 1 one who makes or creates something 2 a writer of books, etc. — *vt.* to be the author of
au-thor-i-tar-i-an (ə thôr'ə ter'ē ən) *adj.* believing in or characterized by absolute obedience to authority — *n.* an advocate or enforcer of such obedience — **au-thor-i-tar-i-an-ism'** *n.*
au-thor'i-ta-tive (-tāt'iv) *adj.* 1 having authority; official 2 based on competent authority; reliable — **au-thor'i-ta-tive-ly** *adv.* — **au-thor'i-ta-tive-ness** *n.*
au-thor'i-ty (-tē) *n.*, *pl.* -**ties** [*see* AUTHOR] 1 the power or right to command, act, etc. 2 [*pl.*] officials with this power 3 power or influence resulting from knowledge, prestige, etc. 4 a person, writing, etc. cited to support an

opinion 5 an expert

au-thor-ize (ô'thər iz') *vt.* -**ized'**, -**iz'ing** 1 to give official approval to 2 to give power or authority to 3 to justify — **au-thor-i-za'tion** *n.* — **au'thor-iz'er** *n.*

Authorized Version the revised English translation of the Bible published in England in 1611 with the authorization of King James I

au'thor-ship' *n.* origin or source with regard to author or originator

au-tism (ô'tiz'əm) *n.* [*AUT(O)- + -ISM*] a developmental disorder marked by impaired social interaction, communication difficulties, etc. — **au-tis'tic** (-tis'tik) *adj.*

au-to (ôt'ō) *n.*, *pl.* -**tos** an automobile

auto- [*< Gr autos*, self] *combining form* 1 self 2 by oneself or itself 3 automatic

au-to-bi-og-ra-phy (ôt'ō bī ä'grə fē) *n.*, *pl.* -**phies** the story of one's own life written by oneself — **au'to-bi'o-graph'i-cal** (-bī'ə graf'i kəl) *adj.* — **au'to-bi'o-graph'i-cal-ly** *adv.*

au-toc-ra-cy (ô tā'krə sē) *n.* [*see* fol.] 1 government in which one person has absolute power 2 *pl.* -**cies** a country with such government

au-to-crat (ôt'ə krat') *n.* [*< Gr autos*, self + *kratos*, power] 1 a ruler with absolute power 2 any domineering person — **au'to-crat'ic** *adj.* — **au'to-crat'i-cal-ly** *adv.*

au-to-di-dact (ôt'ō dī'dakt') *n.* [*see* AUTO- & DIDACTIC] a person who is self-taught

au-to-graph (ôt'ə graf') *n.* [*< Gr autos*, self + *graphein*, write] a person's own signature or handwriting — *vt.* to write one's signature on or in

au'to-mate' (-māt') *vt.* -**mat'ed**, -**mat'ing** [*< AUTOMATION*] to convert to automation or use automation in

au-to-mat-ic (ôt'ə mat'ik) *adj.* [*Gr automatos*, self-moving] 1 done unthinkingly, as from habit or by reflex 2 working by itself 3 using automatic equipment 4 capable of firing continuously until the trigger is released — *n.* 1 an automatic firearm 2 a motor vehicle with a transmission that shifts gears automatically — **au'to-mat'i-cal-ly** *adv.*

automatic pilot a gyroscopic instrument that automatically keeps an aircraft, missile, etc. to a predetermined course and position

au'to-ma'tion (-mā'shən) *n.* [*AUTOMA(TIC) + -TION*] a manufacturing system in which many or all of the processes are automatically performed or controlled, as by electronic devices

au-tom-a-tism (ô tām'ə tiz'əm) *n.* automatic quality, condition, or action — **au-tom'a-tize'** (-tiz'), -**tized'**, -**tiz'ing**, *vt.*

au-tom'a-ton' (-tän', -tən) *n.*, *pl.* -**tons'** or -**ta** (-tə) [*see* AUTOMATIC] 1 any automatic device, esp. a robot 2 a person acting like a robot

au-to-mo-bile (ôt'ə mə bēl') *n.* [*Fr: see* AUTO- & MOBILE] a four-wheeled passenger car with a built-in engine

au'to·mo'tive (-mōt'iv) *adj.* [[AUTO- + -MOTIVE] 1 self-moving 2 having to do with automobiles, trucks, etc.

au'to·nom'ic (-nām'ik) *adj.* of or controlled by the part of the nervous system regulating motor functions of the heart, lungs, etc.

au·ton·o·mous (ô tăn'ə mäs) *adj.* [[< Gr *autos*, self + *nomos*, law] 1 having self-government 2 existing or functioning independently —**au·ton'o·mous·ly** *adv.* —**au·ton'o·my** (-mē) *n.*

au·top·sy (ô'tăp'sē) *n., pl. -sies* [[< Gr *autos*, self + *opsis*, a sight] examination of a dead body to discover the cause of death

au·tumn (ôt'əm) *n.* [[< L *autumnus*] the season between summer and winter; fall —**au·tum·nal** (ô tum'nəl) *adj.*

aux·il·ia·ry (ôg zil'yə rē, -ə rē) *adj.* [[< L *augere*, to increase] 1 helping 2 subsidiary 3 supplementary —*n., pl. -ries* an auxiliary person or thing

auxiliary verb *Gram.* a verb that helps form tenses, moods, voices, etc. of other verbs, as *have, be, do, will, must*

aux·in (ôk'sin) *n.* [[< Gr *auxein*, to increase] a plant hormone that promotes and controls growth

av *abbrev.* 1 average 2 avoirdupois

Av *abbrev.* 1 Avenue 2 avoirdupois

a·vail (ə vāl') *vi., vt.* [[< L *ad*, to + *valere*, be strong] to be of use, help, or worth (to) —*n.* use or help; advantage [to no avail] —**avail oneself of** to take advantage of; utilize

a·vail'a·ble *adj.* 1 that can be used 2 that can be gotten or had; handy —**a·vail'a·bil'i·ty** *n.*

av·a·lanche (av'ə lanch') *n.* [[Fr] 1 a large mass of loosened snow, earth, etc. sliding down a mountain 2 an overwhelming amount coming suddenly

a·vant·garde (ə vânt'gärd', ä'-) *n.* [[Fr] the leaders in new movements, esp. in the arts; vanguard —*adj.* of such movements

av·a·rice (av'ə ris) *n.* [[< L *avere*, to desire] greed for money —**av·a·ri·cious** (av'ə rish'əs) *adj.* —**av'a·ri'cious·ly** *adv.*

a·vast (ə vast') *interj.* [[< Du *houd vast*, hold fast] *Naut.* stop! cease!

av·a·tar (av'ə tär') *n.* [[Sans *avatāra*, descent] 1 *Hinduism* a god's coming to earth in bodily form 2 an embodiment, as of a quality in a person

a·vaunt (ə vōnt') *interj.* [[< L *ab*, from + *ante*, before] [Archaic] go away!

avdp *abbrev.* avoirdupois

Ave *abbrev.* Avenue

A·ve Ma·ri·a (ä'vā mə rē'ə) [[L] *R.C.Ch.* the prayer beginning with the words "Hail, Mary"

a·venge (ə venj') *vt.* **a·venged'**, **a·veng'ing** [[< L *ad*, to + *vindicare*, to claim] 1 to get revenge for (an injury, etc.) 2 to take vengeance on behalf of —**a·veng'er** *n.*

av·e·nue (av'ə nōō') *n.* [[< L *ad*-, to + *venire*, come] 1 a street, drive, etc., esp. when broad 2 a way of approach

a·ver (ə vər') *vt.* **a·verred'**, **a·ver'ring** [[<

L *ad*-, to + *verus*, true] to declare to be true; affirm; assert

av·er·age (av'ər ij, av'rij) *n.* [[< OFr *avarie*, damage to ship or goods; hence, idea of shared losses] 1 the result of dividing the sum of two or more quantities by the number of quantities 2 the usual kind, amount, etc. —*adj.* 1 constituting an average 2 ordinary; normal —*vt. -aged, -ag'ing* 1 to figure out the average of 2 to do, take, etc. on average [to average six sales a day] 3 to divide proportionally —**average out** to arrive at an average eventually —**on (the) average** as an average amount, rate, etc.

a·verse (ə vərs') *adj.* [[see AVERT] unwilling; opposed (to)

a·ver·sion (ə vər'zhən) *n.* 1 an intense dislike 2 the object arousing this

a·vert (ə vər't') *vt.* [[< L *a*-, from + *vertere*, to turn] 1 to turn (the eyes, etc.) away 2 to ward off; prevent

avg *abbrev.* average

a·vi·an (ä'vē ən) *adj.* [[< L *avis*, bird + -AN] of or having to do with birds

a·vi·ar·y (ä'vē er'ē) *n., pl. -aries* [[< L *avis*, bird] a large cage or building for keeping many birds

a·vi·a·tion (ä'vē ä'shən) *n.* [[see prec.] 1 the art or science of flying airplanes 2 the field of aircraft design, construction, etc.

a'vi·a'tor *n.* [[Fr *aviateur*] an airplane pilot —**a'vi·a'trix** (-triks), *pl. -trix-es* or **-tri·ces'** (-tri sēz'), *fem.n.*

av·id (av'id) *adj.* [[< L *avere*, to desire] very eager or greedy —**a·vid·i·ty** (ə vid'ə tē) *n.* —**av'id·ly** *adv.*

a·vi·on·ics (ä'vē än'iks) *n.* [[AVI(ATION) + (ELECTR)ONICS] electronics as applied in aviation and astronautics

av·o·ca·do (av'ə kă'dō, ä'və-) *n., pl. -dos* [[< AmInd] 1 a thick-skinned, pear-shaped tropical fruit with yellow, buttery flesh 2 the tree it grows on 3 a yellowish-green color

av·o·ca·tion (av'ə kă'shən) *n.* [[< L *a*-, away + *vocare*, to call] something done in addition to one's regular work; hobby —**av'o·ca'tion·al** *adj.*

a·void (ə void') *vt.* [[ME < OFr *esvuidier*, to empty] 1 to keep away from; evade; shun 2 to prevent —**a·void'a·ble** *adj.* —**a·void'a·bly** *adv.* —**a·void'ance** *n.*

av·oir·du·pois (av'ər də poiz') *n.* [[< OFr *avoir de peis*, goods of weight] 1 a system of weights in which 16 oz. = 1 lb.: also **avoirdupois weight** 2 [Inf.] weight, esp. of a person

a·vouch (ə vouch') *vt.* [[see ADVOCATE] 1 to vouch for 2 to affirm 3 to avow

a·vow (ə vou') *vt.* [[see ADVOCATE] to declare or acknowledge openly —**a·vow'al** *n.* —**a·vowed'** *adj.* —**a·vow'ed·ly** *adv.*

a·vun·cu·lar (ə vun'kyōō lər) *adj.* [[< L *avunculus*] of or like an uncle

aw (ô) *interj.* a sound of protest, sympathy, etc.

a·wait (ə wāt') *vt., vi.* 1 to wait for or expect 2 to be in store for

a·wake (ə wāk') *vt., vi.* **a·woke'** or **a·waked'**, **a·waked'** or **a·wok'en**, **a·**

wak'ing [< OE] 1 to rouse from sleep 2 to rouse from inactivity —*adj.* 1 not asleep 2 active or alert

a·wak·en (ə wā'kən) *vt., vi.* to awake; wake up —**a·wak'en·ing** *n., adj.*

a·ward (ə wōrd') *vt.* [< ME < Anglo-Fr *eswarder*] 1 to give, as by legal decision 2 to give (a prize, etc.); grant —*n.* 1 *Law* a decision, as by a judge 2 something awarded; prize

a·ware (ə wer') *adj.* [< OE *wær*, cautious] knowing; realizing; conscious — **a·ware'ness** *n.*

a·wash (ə wōsh') *adv., adj.* 1 at a level where the water washes over the surface 2 flooded

a·way (ə wā') *adv.* [< OE *on weg*] 1 from a place [run away] 2 *a)* in another place or direction [away from here] *b)* in the proper place [put your tools away] 3 off; aside [turn away] 4 far [away behind] 5 from one's possession [give it away] 6 at once [fire away] 7 continuously [working away all night] —*adj.* 1 absent 2 at a distance [a mile away] —*interj.* begone! —**away with** go, come, or take away —**do away with** get rid of or kill

awe (ô) *n.* [< ON *agi*] a mixed feeling of reverence, fear, and wonder —*vt.* **awed**, **aw'ing** to fill with awe —**stand (or be) in awe of** to respect and fear

a·weigh (ə wā') *adj.* just clear of the bottom: said of an anchor

awe·some (ô'səm) *adj.* 1 inspiring awe 2 [Slang] wonderful; impressive — **awe'some·ly** *adv.* —**awe'some·ness** *n.*

awe·struck (ô'struk') *adj.* filled with awe: also **awe'strick'en** (-strick'en)

aw·ful (ô'fəl) *adj.* 1 inspiring awe 2 terrifying 3 very bad —*adv.* [Inf.] very —**aw'ful·ness** *n.*

aw·ful·ly (ô'fə lē, ô'flē) *adv.* 1 in an awful way 2 [Inf.] very

a·while (ə wil', -hwil') *adv.* for a short time

awk·ward (ôk'wərd) *adj.* [< ON *qfugr*, turned backward] 1 clumsy; bungling 2 hard to handle; unwieldy 3 uncomfortable [an awkward pose] 4 embarrassed or embarrassing —**awk'ward·ly** *adv.* —**awk'ward·ness** *n.*

awl (ôl) *n.* [< OE *æ/l*] a small, pointed tool for making holes in wood, leather, etc.

awn (ôn) *n.* [< ON *qgn*] the bristly fibers on a head of barley, oats, etc.

awn·ing (ôn'in) *n.* [< ? MFr *auvent*, a sloping roof] a structure, as of canvas, extended before a window, door, etc. as a protection from the sun or rain

a·woke (ə wōk') *vt., vi. pt. of AWAKE*

a·wok'en *vt., vi. alt. pp. of AWAKE*

A·WOL or **a·wol** (ā'wôl') *adj., adv.* *Mil.* absent without leave

a·wry (ə rī') *adv., adj.* [see A-¹ & WRY] 1 with a twist to a side; askew 2 wrong; amiss [our plans went awry]

ax or axe (aks) *n., pl. ax'es* [< OE *æx*] a tool with a long handle and a head with a blade, for chopping wood, etc. —*vt.* **axed**, **ax'ing** 1 to trim, split, etc. with an ax 2 to get rid of —**give (or get) the ax** [Inf.] to discharge (or be discharged)

from a job —**have an ax to grind** [Inf.] to have an object of one's own to gain or promote

ax·el (ak'səl) *n.* [after Axel Paulsen (1865-1938), Norw skater] a jump in which a skater turns in the air and lands facing in the opposite direction

ax·i·al (ak'sē əl) *adj.* 1 of, like, or forming an axis 2 around, on, or along an axis —**ax'i·al·ly** *adv.*

ax·i·om (ak'sē əm) *n.* [< Gr *axios*, worthy] 1 *a)* a statement universally accepted as true; maxim *b)* a self-evident truth 2 an established principle, scientific law, etc. —**ax'i·o·mat'ic** (-ə mat'ik) *adj.*

ax·is (ak'sis) *n., pl. ax'es* (-sēz') [L] 1 a real or imaginary straight line on which an object rotates 2 a central line around which the parts of a thing, system, etc. are evenly arranged —**the Axis** Germany, Italy, and Japan in WWII

ax·le (ak'səl) *n.* [< ON *qxull*] 1 a rod on or with which a wheel turns 2 *a)* a bar connecting two opposite wheels, as of an automobile *b)* the spindle at either end of such a bar

Ax·min·ster (aks'min'stər) *n.* [< English town where first made] varicolored, patterned carpet with a cut pile

ax·o·lotl (ak'sə lät'l) *n.* [< AmInd] a dark salamander of Mexico and the W U.S.

ax·on (ak'sän') *n.* [< Gr *axōn*, axis] that part of a nerve cell through which impulses travel away from the cell body

a·ya·tol·lah (ī'yə tō'lə) *n.* [< Ar *āyat*, sign + *Allah*, Allah] a leader of a Muslim sect, serving as teacher, judge, etc.

aye¹ (ā) *adv.* [< ON *ei*] [Old Poet.] always; ever: also **ay**

aye² (i) *adv.* [prob. < I, pers. pron.] yes —*n.* an affirmative vote or voter Also **ay**

AZ Arizona

a·za·lea (ə zāl'yə) *n.* [< Gr *azaleos*, dry: it thrives in dry soil] 1 a shrub of the heath family, with flowers of various colors 2 the flower

Az·er·bai·jan (äz'ər bī jän', az'-) country in W Asia: formerly a republic of the U.S.S.R.: 33,430 sq. mi.: pop. 7,021,000

az·i·muth (az'ə məth) *n.* [< Ar *al*, the + *samt*, way] *Astronomy, Surveying* distance clockwise in degrees from the north point or, in the Southern Hemisphere, south point

A·zores (ā'zôrz', ə zôrz') group of Portuguese islands in the N Atlantic, west of Portugal

AZT (ā'zē'tē') *n.* [az(ido)t(hymidine)] an antiviral drug used to treat AIDS

Az·tec (az'tek') *n.* 1 a member of an Amerindian people that had an advanced civilization in Mexico before the Spanish conquest in 1519 2 the language of this people —*adj.* of the Aztecs, their language, etc.: also **Az'tec·an**

az·ure (azh'ər) *adj.* [< Pers *lāzhuward*, lapis lazuli] sky-blue —*n.* sky blue or any similar blue color

B

b¹ or **B** (bē) *n.*, *pl.* **b's**, **B's** the second letter of the English alphabet

b² *abbrev.* born

B¹ (bē) *n.* 1 a blood type 2 a grade indicating above-average but not outstanding work 3 *Music* the seventh tone in the scale of C major —*adj.* inferior to the best [*a B movie*]

B² *abbrev.* 1 bachelor 2 *Baseball* a) base b) baseman 3 *Music* bass Also **b**

B³ *Chem.* symbol for boron

Ba *Chem.* symbol for barium

BA or **B.A.** *abbrev.* Bachelor of Arts

baa (bā) *vi.*, *n.* [*echoic*] bleat

Ba-al (bā'al) *n.* [*< Heb*] an ancient fertility god

bab-ble (bab'al) *vi.* -bled, -bling [*echoic*] 1 to talk like a small child; prattle 2 to talk foolishly or too much 3 to murmur, as a brook does when flowing over stones —*vt.* to say incoherently or foolishly —*n.* 1 incoherent vocal sounds 2 foolish talk 3 a murmuring sound — **bab'bler** *n.*

babe (bāb) *n.* 1 a baby 2 a naive person: also **babe in the woods** 3 [*Slang*] a girl or young woman, esp. an attractive one

Ba-bel (bā'bəl, bab'al) *n.* 1 *Bible* a city thwarted in building a tower to heaven when God created a confusion of tongues 2 [*also b-*] a confusion of voices, sounds, etc. or the scene of this

ba-boon (ba bōon', bə-) *n.* [*< OFr babuin*, ape, fool] a large, fierce, dog-faced, short-tailed monkey of Africa and Arabia

ba-bush-ka (bə boosh'kə) *n.* [*Russ*, grandmother] a woman's scarf worn on the head and tied under the chin

ba-by (bā'bē) *n.*, *pl.* -bies [*ME babi*] 1 a very young child; infant 2 one who acts like an infant 3 a very young animal 4 the youngest or smallest in a group 5 [*Slang*] darling; honey 6 [*Slang*] any person or thing —*adj.* 1 of or for an infant 2 very young 3 small of its kind 4 childish —*vt.* -bied, -by-ing to pamper; coddle —**ba'by-hood** *n.* —**ba'by-ish** *adj.*

baby beef meat from a prime heifer or steer that is one to two years old

baby boomer a person born during the birthrate increase (the **baby boom**) after 1945

baby carriage a small vehicle, pushed by hand, for wheeling a baby about: also **baby buggy**

baby grand a small grand piano

Bab-y-lon (bab'a lān') capital of *Babylonia*: noted for luxury and wickedness

Bab-y-lo-ni-a (bab'a lō'nē ə) ancient empire in SW Asia —**Bab'y-lo'ni-an** *adj.*, *n.*

baby's breath a plant with small, delicate, white or pink flowers

baby sitter a person hired to take care

of a child or children, as when the parents are away for the evening —**ba'by-sit'**, -sat', -sit'ting, *vi.*, *vt.*

baby talk playful talk for amusing a baby or in imitating a baby

bac-ca-lau-re-ate (bak'a lōr'ē it) *n.* [*< ML baccalaris*, young nobleman seeking knighthood] 1 the degree of Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, etc. 2 a commencement address

bac-cha-nal (bak'a nal') *n.* a drunken orgy —**bac'cha-na'li-an** (-nā'lē ən) *adj.*, *n.*

Bac-chus (bak'əs) *n.* the Greek and Roman god of wine and revelry

Bach (bākh), Jo-hann Se-bas-ti-an (yō'hän' zā bäs'tē än') 1685-1750; Ger. organist & composer

bach-e-lor (bach'a lər, bach'lər) *n.* [*< ML baccalaris*: see **BACCALAUREATE**] an unmarried man —**bach'e-lor-hood** *n.*

Bachelor of Arts (or **Science**, etc.) 1 a degree given by a college or university to one who has completed a four-year course in the humanities (or in science, etc.): also **bachelor's degree** 2 one who holds this degree

bachelor's button any of several plants with white, pink, or blue flowers, as the cornflower

ba-cil-lus (bə sil'əs) *n.*, *pl.* -cil'li' (-ī') [*< L bacillum*, little stick] 1 any of a genus of rod-shaped bacteria 2 loosely, any of the bacteria —**bac-il-lar-y** (bas'a ler'ē, bə sil'ər ē) *adj.*

back (bak) *n.* [*< OE baec*] 1 the rear (or, in some animals, the top) part of the body from the nape of the neck to the end of the spine 2 the backbone 3 a part that supports or fits the back 4 the rear part or reverse of anything 5 *Sports* a player or position behind the front line —*adj.* 1 at the rear 2 remote 3 of or for the past [*back pay*] 4 backward —*adv.* 1 at, to, or toward the rear 2 to or toward a former condition, time, etc. 3 in reserve or concealment 4 in return or requital [*pay him back*] —*vt.* 1 to move backward 2 to support 3 to bet on 4 to provide or be a back for —*vi.* to go backward —**back and forth** backward and forward —**back down** to withdraw from a position or claim —(in) **back of** behind —**back off** 1 to move back 2 [*Inf.*] **BACK DOWN** —**back out** (of) 1 to withdraw from an enterprise 2 to evade keeping a promise, etc. —**back up** 1 to support 2 to move backward: also **back away** 3 to accumulate because of restricted movement [*traffic backed up*] 4 *Comput.* to make a standby copy of (data, etc.) —**go back on** [*Inf.*] 1 to be disloyal to; betray 2 to fail to keep (one's word, etc.) —**turn one's back on** 1 to turn away from, as in contempt 2 to abandon

back'ache *n.* an ache or pain in the back

back'bite *vt.*, *vi.* -bit', -bit'ten or -bit',

-bit'ing to slander (someone absent) —
back'bit'er *n.*

back'board' *n.* 1 a board at or forming the back of something 2 *Basketball* the board behind the basket

back'bone' *n.* 1 the spine 2 a main support 3 willpower, courage, etc.

back'break'ing *adj.* very tiring

back'coun'try *n.* a remote, thinly populated area

back'drop' *n.* 1 a curtain, often scenic, at the back of a stage 2 background or setting

back'er *n.* 1 a patron; sponsor 2 one who bets on a contestant

back'field' *n.* *Football* the players behind the line

back'fire' *n.* 1 the burning out of a small area, as in a forest, to check the spread of a big fire 2 premature ignition or an explosion of gases in an internal-combustion engine 3 reverse explosion in a gun —*vi.* -fired', -firing 1 to explode as a backfire 2 to go awry or boomerang

back'gam'mon (-gam'an) *n.* [*BACK* + *ME gammen*, game] a game for two, with dice governing moves of pieces on a special board

back'ground' *n.* 1 the distant part of a scene 2 surroundings, sounds, etc. behind or subordinate to something 3 one's training and experience 4 events leading up to something

back'ground'er *n.* a press briefing at which background information is provided

back'hand' *n.* 1 handwriting that slants up to the left 2 a backhand catch, stroke, etc. —*adj.* 1 done with the back of the hand; specif., done with the back of the hand turned inward, as for a baseball catch, or forward, as for a tennis stroke, and with the arm across the body. 2 written in backhand —*adv.* with a backhand —*vt.* to hit, catch, swing, etc. backhand

back'hand'ed *adj.* 1 *BACKHAND* 2 indirect or sarcastic —*adv.* with a backhand

back'hoe' (-hō') *n.* an excavating vehicle with a hinged bucket at the end of a long arm

back'ing *n.* 1 something forming a back for support 2 support given to a person or cause 3 supporters; backers

back'lash' *n.* sharp reaction or recoil

back'log' *n.* an accumulation or reserve —*vi.*, *vt.* -logged', -log'ging to accumulate as a backlog

back order an order not yet filled

back'pack' *n.* a knapsack, specif. one attached to a frame and worn as by hikers —*vi.*, *vt.* to hike with, or carry in, a backpack —back'pack'er *n.*

back'ped'al *vi.* -ped'aled or -ped'al'ed, -ped'al-ing or -ped'al-ling 1 to pedal backward, as in braking a bicycle 2 to move backward; retreat 3 to retract an earlier opinion

back'rest' *n.* a support for or at the back

back'-scratch'ing *n.* [*Inf.*] a reciprocal exchange of favors, etc.

back'side' *n.* 1 the back part 2 the

rump

back'slap'per (-slap'ər) *n.* [*Inf.*] an effusively friendly person

back'slash' *n.* a short diagonal line (\): a character found esp. on computer keyboards

back'slide' *vi.* -slid', -slid' or -slid'den, -slid'ing to regress in morals, etc. —back'slid'er *n.*

back'space' *vi.* -spaced', -spac'ing to move a typewriter carriage, cursor, etc. one or more spaces back along the line

back'spin' *n.* a backward spin given to a ball, etc., making it reverse direction upon hitting a surface

back'splash' *n.* a washable surface behind a sink, etc. to protect a wall from splashes

back'stage' *adv.*, *adj.* behind and off the stage, as in the wings or dressing rooms

back'stairs' *adj.* involving intrigue or scandal; secret: also back'stair

back'stop' *n.* a fence, screen, etc. to keep balls from going too far, as behind the catcher in baseball

back'stretch' *n.* the part of a racetrack opposite the homestretch

back'stroke' *n.* a swimming stroke made while lying face upward

back'swing' *n.* that part of a player's swing in which the golf club, tennis racket, etc. is swung backward before being swung forward

back talk [*Inf.*] insolent replies

back'-to-back' *adj.* [*Inf.*] one right after another

back'track' *vi.* 1 to return by the same path 2 to retreat or recant

back'up' or back'-up' *adj.* 1 standing by as an alternate or auxiliary 2 supporting —*n.* a backing up; specif., a) an accumulation b) a support or help

back'ward *adv.* 1 toward the back 2 with the back foremost 3 in reverse order 4 in a way opposite to usual 5 into the past Also back'wards —*adj.* 1 turned toward the rear or in the opposite way 2 shy 3 slow or retarded —back'ward-ness *n.*

back'wash' *n.* 1 water or air moved backward, as by a ship, propeller, etc. 2 a reaction caused by some event

back'wa'ter *n.* 1 water moved or held back by a dam, tide, etc. 2 stagnant water in an inlet, etc. 3 a backward place or condition

back'woods' *pl.n.* [*occas. with sing. v.*] 1 heavily wooded areas far from centers of population 2 any remote, thinly populated area —*adj.* of or like the backwoods —back'woods'man (-mən), *pl.* -men (-mən), *n.*

ba·con (bā'kən) *n.* [*< OS baco*, side of bacon] salted and smoked meat from the back or sides of a hog

Ba·con (bā'kən), Fran·cis (fran'sis) 1561-1626; Eng. philosopher & writer

ba·te·ri·a (bak tir'ē ə) *pl.n.*, *sing.* -ri·um (-əm) or -ri·a [*< Gr baktērion*, small staff] microorganisms which have no chlorophyll and multiply by simple divi-

sion: some bacteria cause diseases, but others are necessary for fermentation, etc. —**bac-te'ri-al** *adj.*

bac-te'ri-cide' (-tir'ə sīd') *n.* an agent that destroys bacteria —**bac-te'ri-cid'al** *adj.*

bac-te'ri-ol'o-gy (-tir'ē əl'ə jē) *n.* the science that deals with bacteria —**bac-te'ri-o-log'i-cal** (-ə lāj'ə kəl) *adj.* —**bac-te'ri-ol'o-gist** *n.*

bad¹ (bad) *adj.* worse, worst [ME] 1 not good; not as it should be 2 inadequate or unfit 3 unfavorable [*bad news*] 4 rotten or spoiled 5 incorrect or faulty 6 *a*) wicked; immoral *b*) misbehaving; mischievous 7 harmful 8 severe 9 ill 10 sorry; distressed [*he feels bad about it*] 11 offensive —*adv.* [Inf.] badly —*n.* anything bad —not bad [Inf.] fairly good —**bad'ness** *n.*

bad² (bad) *vt., vi.* archaic *pt.* of BID

bad blood (mutual) ill will

bade (bad) *vt., vi.* alt. *pt.* of BID

bad egg [Slang] a mean or dishonest person; also **bad actor**, **bad apple**, or **bad lot**

bad faith insincerity; dishonesty

badge (baj) *n.* [ME *bage*] 1 an emblem worn to show rank, membership, etc. 2 any distinctive sign, etc.

badg-er (baj'ər) *n.* [< ?] 1 a burrowing animal with a broad back and thick, short legs 2 its fur —*vt.* to nag or torment

bad-i-nage (bad'n əzh') *n.* [Fr] playful talk; banter

bad-lands (bad'landz') *pl.n.* 1 an area of barren land with dry soil and soft rocks eroded into odd shapes 2 [B-] any of several such W U.S. areas

bad'ly *adv.* worse, worst 1 in a bad manner 2 [Inf.] very much; greatly

bad'man' (-man') *n., pl. -men' (-men')* a cattle thief or desperado of the old West

bad-min-ton (bad'mint'n) *n.* [after *Badminton*, Eng estate] a game in which a shuttlecock is batted back and forth with rackets across a net

bad'-mouth' *vt.* [Slang] to find fault with; disparage

bad'-tem-pered *adj.* irritable

Bae-de-ker (bā'də kər) *n.* 1 any of a series of guidebooks to foreign countries, first published in Germany 2 loosely, any guidebook

baf-*fl*e (baf'əl) *vt.* -fled, -fling [< ?] 1 to perplex completely; bewilder 2 to impede; check —*n.* a wall or screen to deflect air, sound, etc. —**baf'fl-e-ment** *n.* —**baf'fler** *n.* —**baf'fling** *adj.*

bag (bag) *n.* [< ON *baggi*] 1 a nonrigid container of paper, plastic, etc., with an open top 2 a satchel; suitcase, etc. 3 a purse 4 game taken in hunting 5 a baglike shape or part 6 a bagful 7 [Slang] an unattractive woman 8 [Slang] one's special interest 9 *Baseball* a base —*vt.* **bagged**, **bag'ging** 1 to put into a bag 2 to capture 3 to kill in hunting 4 [Slang] to obtain —*vi.* 1 to swell; bulge 2 to hang loosely —**in the bag** [Slang] having its success assured

bag-a-telle (bag'ə tel') *n.* [Fr < L *bacca*, berry] a trifle

ba-gel (bā'gəl) *n.* [Yiddish] a chewy bread roll shaped like a small doughnut

bag'ful *n., pl. -fuls'* as much as a bag will hold

bag-gage (bag'ij) *n.* [< ML *bagga*, chest, bag] 1 the bags, etc. of a traveler; luggage 2 burdensome beliefs, practices, etc.

bag-gie (bag'ē) *n.* [< *Baggies*, a trademark for such bags] a small, clear plastic bag for storing food, etc.

bag-gy (bag'ē) *adj.* -gi-er, -gi-est puffed out or hanging loosely —**bag'gi-ly** *adv.* —**bag'gi-ness** *n.*

Bagh-dad (bag'dad) capital of Iraq: pop. 1,900,000: also sp. **Bag-dad**

bag lady [Slang] a homeless, poor woman who wanders city streets carrying her belongings in shopping bags



BAGPIPE

bag'pipe' *n.* [often *pl.*] a wind instrument, now chiefly Scottish, played by forcing air from a bag into reed pipes and fingering the stops

bah (bā, ba) *interj.* used to express contempt, scorn, or disgust

Ba-ha-mas (bə hə'məz) country on a group of islands (*Bahama Islands*) in the West Indies: 5,353 sq. mi.; pop. 264,000

Bah-rain (bə rān') country on a group of islands in the Persian Gulf: 266 sq. mi.; pop. 518,000: also sp. **Bah-rein**

bail¹ (bāl) *n.* [< L *bajulare*, bear a burden] 1 money deposited with the court to get a prisoner temporarily released 2 such a release —*vt.* 1 to have (a prisoner) set free by giving bail 2 to help out of financial or other difficulty Often with *out* —**bail'a-ble** *adj.*

bail² (bāl) *n.* [ME *baille*, bucket] a bucket for dipping up water from a boat —*vi., vt.* to dip out (water) from (a boat): usually with *out* —**bail out** 1 to parachute from an aircraft 2 [Inf.] to flee a difficult situation

bail³ (bāl) *n.* [ME *beil*] a hoop-shaped handle for a bucket, etc.

bail-iff (bā'lif) *n.* [ME *bailif*] 1 a deputy sheriff 2 a court officer who guards the jurors, keeps order in the court, etc. 3 in England, a district official 4 [Chiefly Brit.] a steward of an estate

bail-i-wick (bā'lə wik') *n.* [ME < *baili*, bailiff + *wik*, village] 1 a bailiff's district 2 one's particular area of activity, authority, interest, etc.

bails-man (bālz'mən) *n.*, *pl.* -men (-mən) a person who gives bail for another

bairn (bern) *n.* [Scot.] a child

bait (bāt) *vt.* [< ON *beita*] 1 to set dogs on for sport [to bait bears] 2 to torment or harass, esp. by verbal attacks 3 to goad or provoke 4 to put food on (a hook or trap) as a lure for game 5 to lure; entice; tempt —*n.* 1 food, etc. put on a hook or trap as a lure 2 anything used as a lure

bait'-and-switch' *adj.* of or using an unethical sales technique in which a seller lures customers by advertising an often nonexistent bargain item and then tries to switch their attention to more expensive items

baize (bāz) *n.* [< L *badius*, brown] a coarse, feltlike woolen cloth

Ba-ja Ca-li-for-nia (bā'hä kälē fôr'nyä) state of NW Mexico, south of California: 27,071 sq. mi.; pop. 1,661,000

Baja California Sur state of NW Mexico, south of Baja California: 28,447 sq. mi.; pop. 318,000

bake (bāk) *vt.* baked, bak'ing [< OE *bacan*] 1 to cook (food) by dry heat, esp. in an oven 2 to dry and harden (pottery, etc.) by heat; fire —*vi.* 1 to bake bread, etc. 2 to become baked —*n.* 1 a baking 2 a social affair at which baked food is served

baked beans navy beans baked with salt pork, molasses or brown sugar, etc.

bak-er (bā'kər) *n.* one whose work or business is baking bread, etc.

baker's dozen thirteen

Bak-ers-field (bā'kərz fēld') city in SC California: pop. 175,000

bak'er-y *n.* 1 *pl.* -er-ies a place where bread, etc. is baked or sold 2 [Dial.] baked goods

baking powder a leavening agent containing baking soda and an acid-forming substance

baking soda sodium bicarbonate, used as a leavening agent and as an antacid

bal-a-lai-ka (bal'ə lik'ə) *n.* [Russ] a Russian stringed instrument somewhat like a guitar

bal-ance (bal'əns) *n.* [< LL *bilanx*, having two scales] 1 an instrument for weighing, esp. one with two matched hanging scales 2 a state of equilibrium in weight, value, etc. 3 bodily equilibrium 4 mental or emotional stability 5 harmonious proportion of elements in a design, etc. 6 a weight, value, etc. that counteracts another 7 equality of debits and credits, or the difference between them 8 a remainder —*vt.* -anced, -anc-ing 1 to weigh in or as in a balance 2 to compare as to relative value, etc. 3 to counteract; offset 4 to bring into proportion, harmony, etc. 5 to make or be equal to in weight, value, etc. 6 to find the difference between, or to equalize, the debits and credits of (an account) —*vi.* 1 to be in equilibrium 2 to be equal in weight, value, etc. 3 to have the credits and debits equal —in

the balance not yet settled

balance sheet a statement showing the financial status of a business

bal-co-ny (bal'kə nē) *n.*, *pl.* -nies [< It *balcone*] 1 a platform projecting from an upper story and enclosed by a railing 2 an upper floor of seats in a theater, etc., often projecting over the main floor

bald (bôld) *adj.* [< ME] 1 having a head with white fur, etc. growing on it 2 lacking hair on the head 3 not covered by natural growth 4 having the tread worn off 5 plain or blunt [*bald truth*] —**bald'ly** *adv.* —**bald'ness** *n.*

bald eagle a large eagle of North America, with a white-feathered head

bal-der-dash (bôl'dər dash') *n.* [orig. (17th c.), an odd mixture] nonsense

bald-faced (bôld'fäst') *adj.* brazen; shameless [*a baldfaced lie*]

bald'ing *adj.* becoming bald

bal-dric (bôl'drik') *n.* [ult. < L *balteus*, belt] a belt worn over one shoulder to support a sword, etc.

bale (bāl) *n.* [< OHG *balla*, ball] a large bundle, esp. a standardized quantity of goods, as raw cotton, compressed and bound —*vt.* baled, bal'ing to make into bales —**bal'er** *n.*

ba-leen (bə lēn') *n.* [ult. < Gr *phallaina*, whale] the horny, elastic material hanging from the upper jaw of some whales (**baleen whales**)

bale-ful (bāl'fəl) *adj.* [< OE *bealu*, evil] deadly; harmful; ominous

Ba-li (bā'lē, bal'ē) island of Indonesia — **Ba'li-nese'**, *pl.* -nese', *adj.*, *n.*

balk (bôk) *n.* [OE *balca*, ridge] 1 an obstruction, hindrance, etc. 2 *Baseball* an illegal motion by the pitcher entitling base runners to advance one base —*vt.* to obstruct; foil —*vi.* 1 to stop and refuse to move or act 2 to hesitate or recoil (*at*)

Balkan Peninsula peninsula in SE Europe, east of Italy

Bal-kans (bôl'kənz) countries of Yugoslavia, Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia, Romania, Bulgaria, Albania, Greece, & European Turkey, in SE Europe —**Bal'kan** *adj.*

balk-y (bôk'ē) *adj.* -i-er, -i-est stubbornly resisting

ball¹ (bôl) *n.* [ME *bal*] 1 any round object; sphere; globe 2 *a)* a round or egg-shaped object used in various games *b)* any of several such games, esp. baseball 3 a throw or pitch of a ball [*a fast ball*] 4 a missile for a cannon, rifle, etc. 5 a rounded part of the body 6 *Baseball* a pitched ball that is not hit and is not a strike —*vi.*, *vt.* to form into a ball —**ball up** [Slang] to muddle or confuse —**be on the ball** [Slang] to be alert; be efficient

ball² (bôl) *n.* [< Fr < Gr *ballizein*, to dance] 1 a formal social dance 2 [Slang] a good time

bal-lad (bal'əd) *n.* [< OFr *ballade*, dancing song] 1 a sentimental song with the same melody for each stanza 2 a narrative song or poem, usually anonymous, with simple words, short stanzas,

and a refrain 3 a popular love song — **bal'lad·eer' n.** — **bal'lad·ry n.**

ball'-and-sock'et joint a joint, as of the hip, formed by a ball in a socket

bal·last (bal'əst) *n.* [**< MDu** *bal, bad*] 1 anything heavy carried in a ship or vehicle to give stability 2 crushed rock or gravel, used in railroad beds, etc. — **vt.** to furnish with ballast

ball bearing 1 a bearing in which the parts turn on freely rolling metal balls 2 one of these balls



BALL BEARING

bal·le·ri·na (bal'ə rē'nə) *n.* [**It**] a girl or woman ballet dancer

bal·let (ba lā', bal'ā) *n.* [**Fr**] 1 an artistic dance form of graceful, precise gestures and movements 2 a play, etc. performed by ballet dancers, or the music for this 3 ballet dancers

ball'game' n. 1 a game played with a ball 2 [**Inf.**] a set of circumstances [a different *ballgame*]

ballistic missile a long-range guided missile designed to fall free as it approaches its target

bal·lis·tics (bə lis'tiks) *n.* the science dealing with the motion and impact of projectiles — **bal·lis'tic adj.**

ball joint a ball-and-socket joint used in automotive vehicles to connect the tie rods to the turning wheels

bal·loon (bə lōon') *n.* [**< Fr < It** *palla, ball*] 1 a large, airtight bag that rises when filled with hot air or a gas lighter than air 2 an airship with such a bag 3 an inflatable rubber bag, used as a toy 4 the large final payment on certain loans — **vt.** to inflate — **vi.** to swell; expand — **adj.** like a balloon — **bal·loon'ist n.**

bal·lot (bal'ət) *n.* [**< It** *palla, ball*] 1 a ticket, card, form, etc. by which a vote is registered 2 act or right of voting, as by ballots 3 the total number of votes cast — **vi.** to vote

ball'park' n. a baseball stadium

ball'-peen' hammer a hammer with one end of the head rounded and the other end flat

ball'play'er n. a baseball player

ball'point' (pen) a writing pen with a small ball bearing instead of a point: also **ball'-point' n.**

ball'room' n. a large hall for dancing

bal·lute (ba lōot') *n.* [**BALL(OON) + (PARACH)UTE**] a balloonlike device used to slow down a spacecraft reentering the atmosphere

bal·ly·hoo (bal'ē hōō') *n.* [**< ?**] noisy talk, sensational advertising, etc. — **vt., vi.** -hooed', -hoo'ing [**Inf.**] to promote with ballyhoo

balm (bām) *n.* [**< Gr** *balsamon*] 1 a fragrant, healing ointment or oil 2 anything healing or soothing

balm'y adj. -i·er, -i·est 1 soothing, mild, etc. 2 [**Slang, Chiefly Brit.**] crazy

ba·lo·ney (bə lō'nē) *n.* [**< bologna**] 1

bologna 2 [**Slang**] nonsense

bal·sa (bōl'sə) *n.* [**Sp**] 1 the wood, very light in weight, of a tropical American tree 2 the tree

bal·sam (bōl'səm) *n.* [**see BALM**] 1 an aromatic resin obtained from certain trees 2 any of various aromatic, resinous oils or fluids 3 balm 4 any of various trees yielding balsam

bal·sam·ic vinegar (bōl sam'ik) aromatic, dark-brown vinegar used in salad dressings, etc.

Bal·tic Sea (bōl'tik) sea in N Europe, west of Latvia, Lithuania, & Estonia

Bal·ti·more (bōl'tə mōr) seaport in N Maryland: pop. 736,000

bal·us·ter (bal'əs tər) *n.* [**< Gr** *balaustion*, wild pomegranate flower: from the shape] any of the small posts of a railing, as on a staircase

bal·us·trade (bal'əs trād') *n.* a railing having an upper rail supported by balusters

Bal·zac (bāl zāk'; *E* bōl'zak), **Ho·no·ré de** (ô nô rā'də) 1799-1850; **Fr.** novelist

bam·boo (bam bōō') *n.* [**Malay** *bambu*] a treelike tropical grass with woody, jointed, often hollow stems used for furniture, canes, etc.

bam·boo·zle (bam bōō'zəl) **vt.** -zled, -zling [**< ?**] 1 to trick; cheat; dupe 2 to confuse; puzzle

ban (ban) **vt.** **banned**, **ban'ning** [**< OE** *bannan*, summon] to prohibit or forbid, esp. officially — *n.* 1 a condemnation by church authorities 2 a curse 3 an official prohibition 4 strong public condemnation

ba·nal (bā'nəl, bə nal') **adj.** [**Fr:** see *prec.*] trite; hackneyed — **ba·nal'i·ty, pl. -ties, n.** — **ba'nal·ly adv.**

ba·nan·a (bə nan'ə) *n.* [**Sp & Port**] 1 a tropical plant with large clusters of edible fruit 2 the narrow, curved fruit, having soft pulp and thick, usually yellow skin

band¹ (band) *n.* [**ON**] 1 something that binds, ties, or encircles, as a strip or ring of wood, rubber, metal, etc. 2 a strip of color or of material 3 a division of an LP phonograph record 4 a range of wavelengths — **vt.** to put a band on or around

band² (band) *n.* [**< Gothic** *bandwa*, a sign] 1 a group of people united for some purpose 2 a group of musicians playing together, esp. upon wind and percussion instruments — **vi., vt.** to unite for some purpose

band·age (ban'dij) *n.* [**Fr < bande**, a strip] a strip of cloth, etc. used to bind or cover an injury — **vt.** -aged, -ag·ing to put a bandage on

Band-Aid (band'ād') [**prec. + AID**] *trade-mark* for a small bandage of gauze and adhesive tape — *n.* [also **band-aid**] such a bandage: also **band'aid'**

ban·dan·na or **ban·dan·a** (ban dan'ə) *n.* [**Hindi** *bāndhnū*, a method of dyeing] a large, colored handkerchief

band'box' n. a light, round box to hold hats, etc.

ban·deau (ban dō') *n., pl. -deaux' (-dōz')* [**Fr**] 1 a narrow ribbon 2 a band of

material covering the breasts, as a strapless bikini top

ban·dit (ban'dit) *n.* [*< It*] 1 a robber; brigand 2 one who steals, defrauds, etc. —**ban'dit·ry** *n.*

ban·do·leer or **ban·do·lier** (ban'də lir') *n.* [*< Fr*] a broad belt with pockets for bullets, etc., worn over one shoulder and across the chest

band saw an endless toothed steel belt on pulleys, powered for sawing

bands·man (bandz'mən) *n., pl. -men* (-mən) a member of a band of musicians

band'stand' *n.* a platform for a band, esp. one for outdoor concerts

band'wag'on *n.* a wagon for a band to ride on, as in a parade —**on the band-wagon** [*Inf.*] on the popular or apparently winning side

band'width' *n.* the transmission rate of information along electronic communications lines

ban·dy¹ (ban'dē) *vt. -died, -dy·ing* [*Fr bander, bandy at tennis*] 1 to toss or hit back and forth 2 to pass (rumors, etc.) freely 3 to exchange (words), esp. angrily

ban·dy² (ban'dē) *adj.* [*Fr bandé, bent*] curved outward; bowed

ban'dy·leg'ged (-leg'id, -legd') *adj.* bowlegged

bane (bān) *n.* [*OE bana*] 1 ruin, death, harm, or their cause 2 [*Obs.*] poison —**bane'ful** *adj.*

bang¹ (baŋ) *vt.* [*ON banga, to pound*] to hit, shut, etc. hard and noisily —*vi.* 1 to make a loud noise 2 to hit noisily or sharply —*n.* 1 a hard, noisy blow or impact 2 a loud, sudden noise 3 [*Inf.*] a burst of vigor 4 [*Slang*] a thrill —*adv.* 1 hard and noisily 2 abruptly —**bang up** to damage

bang² (baŋ) *n.* [*< prec.: see adv., 2*] [*usually pl.*] hair cut to hang straight across the forehead

Bang·kok (baŋ'kāk') seaport & capital of Thailand: pop. 4,697,000

Ban·gla·desh (bāŋ'glə desh', baŋ'-) country in S Asia, on the Bay of Bengal: 57,295 sq. mi.; pop. 109,887,000

ban·gle (baŋ'gəl) *n.* [*Hindi bangrī*] a decorative bracelet or anklet

bang-up (baŋ'up') *adj.* [*Inf.*] very good; excellent

ban·ish (ban'ish) *vt.* [*< OFr banir*] 1 to exile 2 to get rid of —**ban'ish·ment** *n.*

ban·is·ter (ban'is tər) *n.* [*< BALUSTER*] a handrail, specif. one with balusters

ban·jo (ban'jō') *n., pl. -jos' or -joes'* [*of Afr orig.*] a musical instrument with a long neck, circular body, and strings that are plucked —**ban'jo·ist** *n.*

bank¹ (baŋk) *n.* [*ult. < OHG bank, bench*] 1 an establishment for receiving or lending money 2 a reserve supply; pool —*vi.* to do business with a bank —*vt.* to deposit (money) in a bank —**bank on** [*Inf.*] to rely on —**bank'a·ble** *adj.*

bank² (baŋk) *n.* [*< ON bakki*] 1 a long mound or heap 2 a steep slope 3 a rise of land along a river, etc. 4 a shallow place, as in a sea 5 the lateral, slanting

turn of an aircraft —*vt.* 1 to cover (a fire) with ashes and fuel so that it will burn slowly 2 to pile up so as to form a bank 3 to slope (a curve in a road, etc.) 4 to make (an aircraft) slant laterally on a turn 5 to make (a billiard ball) recoil from a cushion

bank³ (baŋk) *n.* [*< OFr banc, bench*] 1 a row of oars 2 a row or tier, as of keys in a keyboard —*vt.* to arrange in a row or tier

bank account money deposited in a bank and credited to the depositor

bank'book' *n.* a book recording a bank depositor's deposits and withdrawals; passbook

bank card an encoded plastic card issued by a bank as for use at an ATM

bank'er *n.* a person who owns or manages a bank

bank'ing *n.* the business of a bank

bank note a promissory note issued by a bank: a form of paper money

bank'roll' *n.* a supply of money —*vt.* [*Inf.*] to supply with money; finance

bank·rupt (baŋk'rʌpt') *n.* [*< Fr < It banca, bench + rotti, broken*] a person legally declared unable to pay debts —*adj.* 1 that is a bankrupt; insolvent 2 lacking in some quality [*morally bankrupt*] —*vt.* to make bankrupt —**bank'rʌpt'cy, pl. -cies, n.**

ban·ner (ban'ər) *n.* [*ME banere < OFr baniere*] 1 a flag 2 a headline running across a newspaper page —*adj.* foremost

banns (banz) *pl.n.* [*see BAN*] the proclamation made in church of an intended marriage

ban·quet (baŋ'kwət) *n.* [*ult. < OHG bank, bench*] 1 a feast 2 a formal dinner —*vt.* to honor with a banquet

ban·quette (baŋ ket') *n.* [*Fr*] 1 a gunners' platform inside a trench, etc. 2 an upholstered bench

ban·shee or **ban·shie** (ban'shē) *n.* [*< Ir bean, woman + sith, fairy*] *Celt. Folklore* a female spirit whose wailing warns of impending death

ban·tam (ban'təm) *n.* [*after Bantam, former province in Java*] 1 any of various small, domestic fowls 2 a small but aggressive person —*adj.* like a bantam

ban'tam·weight' *n.* a boxer weighing 113 to 118 lb.

ban·ter (ban'tər) *vt.* [*17th-c. slang*] to tease playfully —*vi.* to exchange banter (*with* someone) —*n.* playful teasing —**ban'ter·ing·ly** *adv.*

Ban·tu (ban'tōo') *n.* [*Bantu ba-ntu, the men*] 1 a large group of languages of S Africa, including Swahili and Zulu 2 *pl. -tus' or -tu'* a member of a Bantu-speaking people

ban·yan (ban'yən) *n.* [*ult. < Sans*] an Indian fig tree whose branches grow shoots that take root and become new trunks over a wide area

ba·o·bab (bā'ō bab', bā'-) *n.* [*< ? Ethiopian native name*] a thick-trunked tree of Africa, with edible, gourdlike fruit

bap·tism (bap'tiz'əm) *n.* [*see BAPTIZE*]

1 the sacrament of admitting a person into a Christian church by immersing the individual in water or by sprinkling water on the individual 2 an initiating experience —**bap-tis'mal** (-tiz'məl) *adj.*

Bap'tist (-tist) *n.* a member of a Protestant denomination practicing baptism of believers by immersion

bap'tis-ter-y (-tis tər ē, -tis trē) *n., pl. -ies* a place, esp. in a church, used for baptizing: also **bap'tis-try**, *pl. -tries*

bap-tize (bap tīz', bap'tiz) *vt. -tized', -tiz'ing* [*< Gr baptizein, to immerse*] 1 to administer baptism to 2 to initiate 3 to christen

bar (bär) *n.* [*< ML barra*] 1 any long, narrow piece of wood, metal, etc., often used as a barrier, lever, etc. 2 an oblong piece, as of soap 3 anything that obstructs or hinders 4 a band or strip 5 a law court, esp. that part, enclosed by a railing, where the lawyers sit 6 lawyers collectively 7 the legal profession 8 a counter, as for serving alcoholic drinks 9 a place with such a counter 10 *Music a*) a vertical line dividing a staff into measures *b*) a measure —*vt.* **barred**, **bar'ring** 1 to fasten with a bar 2 to obstruct; close 3 to oppose 4 to exclude —*prep.* **excluding** [the best, *bar none*] —**cross the bar** to die

barb (bärb) *n.* [*< L barba, beard*] 1 a beardlike growth 2 a sharp point projecting backward from the main point of a fishhook, etc. 3 a cutting remark —*vt.* to provide with a barb —**barbed** *adj.*

Bar-ba-dos (bär bā'dōs, -dōz) country on an island in the West Indies: 166 sq. mi.; pop. 263,000

bar-bar-i-an (bär ber'ē ən) *n.* [*see BARBAROUS*] 1 a member of a people considered primitive, savage, etc. 2 a cruel person —*adj.* uncivilized, cruel, etc. —**bar-bar'i-an-ism** *n.*

bar-bar'ic (-ber'ik) *adj.* 1 uncivilized; primitive 2 wild, crude, etc.

bar-ba-rism (bär'bə riz'əm) *n.* 1 a non-standard word or expression 2 the state of being primitive or uncivilized 3 a barbarous act or custom

bar-bar-i-ty (bär ber'ə tē) *n., pl. -ties* 1 cruelty; brutality 2 a barbaric taste, manner, etc.

bar-ba-rize (bär'bə rīz') *vt. -rized', -riz'ing* to make or become barbarous —**bar-ba-ri-za'tion** *n.*

bar-ba-rous (bär'bə rəs) *adj.* [*< Gr barbaros, foreign*] 1 uncivilized; primitive 2 crude, coarse, etc. 3 cruel; brutal —**bar-ba-rous-ly** *adv.*

bar-be-cue (bär'bə kyōō') *n.* [*AmSp barbacoa*] 1 *a*) a hog, steer, etc. roasted whole over an open fire *b*) any meat broiled over an open fire 2 a party, picnic, etc. featuring this —*vt.* **-cued', -cu'ing** to roast or broil over an open fire, often with a highly seasoned sauce (**barbecue sauce**)

barbed wire wire with barbs at close intervals

bar-bel (bär'bəl) *n.* [*< L barba, beard*] a

threadlike growth from the lips or jaws of certain fishes



BARBELL

bar-bell (bär'bel') *n.* [*BAR + (DUMB)BELL*] a metal bar with weights attached at each end, used for weight lifting: also **bar bell**

bar-ber (bär'bär) *n.* [*see BARB*] one whose work is cutting hair, shaving beards, etc. —*vt.* to cut the hair of, shave, etc. —*vi.* to work as a barber

bar-ber-ry (bär'ber'ē, -bə rē) *n., pl. -ries* [*< ML barberis*] 1 a spiny shrub with sour, red berries 2 the berry

bar-bi-tu-rate (bär bich'ər it, -bich'ə wit) *n.* [*< Ger*] a salt or ester of a crystalline acid (**bar-bi-tu'ric acid**), used as a sedative

barb'wire *n.* BARBED WIRE

bar-ca-role or **bar-ca-rolle** (bär'kə rōl') *n.* [*< Fr < It*] a Venetian gondolier song, or music like this

Bar-ce-lo-na (bär'sə lō'nə) seaport in NE Spain: pop. 1,753,000

bar code UNIVERSAL PRODUCT CODE

bard (bärd) *n.* [*Gael & Ir*] 1 an ancient Celtic poet 2 a poet

bare (ber) *adj.* **bar'er**, **bar'est** [*OE bær*] 1 not covered or clothed; naked 2 without furnishings; empty 3 simple; plain 4 mere [*bare needs*] —*vt.* **bared**, **bar'ing** to make bare; uncover —*lay bare* to uncover; expose —**bare'ness** *n.*

bare'back *adv., adj.* on a horse with no saddle

bare'-bones *adj.* simple; basic

bare'faced *adj.* 1 with the face uncovered 2 open; shameless

bare'foot *adj., adv.* without shoes and stockings: also **bare'footed**

bare'hand'ed *adj., adv.* 1 with hands uncovered or unprotected 2 without weapons, etc.

bare'head'ed *adj., adv.* wearing no hat or other covering on the head

bare'leg'ged (-leg'id, -legd') *adj., adv.* with the legs bare

bare-ly (ber'lē) *adv.* 1 plainly 2 only just; scarcely 3 scantily

bar-gain (bär'gən) *n.* [*< OFr bargaignier, haggle*] 1 a mutual agreement or contract 2 such an agreement with regard to worth [*a bad bargain*] 3 something sold at a price favorable to the buyer —*vi.* 1 to haggle 2 to make a bargain —**bargain for** (or on) to expect; count on —**into** (or in) the bargain besides —**bar'gain-er** *n.*

bargain counter a store counter for

displaying goods at reduced prices

barge (bärj) *n.* [*< ML barga*] 1 a large, flat-bottomed boat for freight on rivers, etc. 2 a large pleasure boat —*vi.* barged, barg'ing 1 to move slowly and clumsily 2 to come or go (*in or into*) rudely or abruptly

bar graph a graph in which the lengths of parallel bars are used to compare quantities, etc.

Bar Harbor resort town on an island off E Maine: pop. 4,400

bar-i-tone (bar'ə tōn') *n.* [*< Gr barys, deep + tonos, tone*] 1 the range of a male voice between tenor and bass 2 a voice, singer, or instrument with such a range

bar-i-um (ber'ē əm) *n.* [*< Gr barys, heavy*] a metallic chemical element

bark¹ (bärk) *n.* [*< ON bqrkr*] the outside covering of trees and woody plants —*vt.* 1 to remove bark from 2 [*Inf.*] to scrape; skin (the knees, etc.)

bark² (bärk) *vi.* [*OE beorcan*] 1 to make the sharp, abrupt cry of a dog or a similar sound 2 to speak sharply; snap —*n.* the characteristic cry of a dog, or any noise like this —**bark up the wrong tree** to misdirect one's attack, energies, etc.

bark³ (bärk) *n.* [*< LL barca*] 1 [Old Poet.] a boat 2 a sailing vessel with two square-rigged masts forward and a fore-and-aft mast aft

bar'keep'er *n.* 1 an owner of a barroom 2 a bartender Also **bar'keep'**

bark'er *n.* one who talks loud to attract customers to a sideshow, etc.

bar-ley (bär'lē) *n.* [*OE bærlic*] 1 a cereal grass 2 its grain, used in making malt, in soups, etc.

bar'maid' *n.* a waitress who serves alcoholic drinks in a bar

bar mitz-vah (bär mits'və) [*< Yiddish < Aram bar, son of + Heb mitsva, commandment*] [*also B- M-*] 1 a Jewish boy who has arrived at the age of religious responsibility, thirteen years 2 the ceremony celebrating this event

barn (bärn) *n.* [*OE bern*] a farm building for sheltering harvested crops, livestock, machines, etc.

bar-na-cle (bär'nə kəl) *n.* [*ME bernacle*] a saltwater shellfish that attaches itself to rocks, ship bottoms, etc.

barn'burn'er *n.* [*Slang*] something dramatic and exciting, as a close contest

barn'storm' *vi., vt.* to tour (the country, esp. rural areas) giving speeches or lectures, performing exhibitions, etc. — **barn'storm'er** *n.*

barn'yard' *n.* the ground near a barn — *adj.* of, like, or fit for a barnyard; specif., earthy or crude

ba-rom-e-ter (bə räm'ət ər) *n.* [*< Gr baros, weight + -METER*] 1 an instrument for measuring atmospheric pressure and thus forecasting weather 2 anything that marks change —**bar-o-met-ric** (bar'ə me'trik) *adj.*

bar-on (bar'ən) *n.* [*ME*] 1 a member of the lowest rank of British nobility 2 a magnate —**bar'on-age** *n.* —**bar'on-ess** *fem.n.* —**ba-ro-ni-al** (bə rō'nē əl) *adj.*

bar'on-et (-ət) *n.* a man holding the lowest hereditary British title, below a baron —**bar'on-et-cy**, *pl. -cies, n.*

ba-roque (bə rōk') *adj.* [*Fr < Port barroco, imperfect pearl*] 1 [*often B-*] a) very ornate and full of curved lines, as much art and architecture of about 1600-1750 b) full of highly embellished melodies, fugues, etc., as much music of that time 2 gaudily ornate

bar-racks (bar'əks) *pl.n.* [*< Sp barro, clay*] [*often with sing. v.*] a building or group of buildings for housing soldiers, etc.

bar-ra-cu-da (bar'ə kōō'də) *n., pl. -da or -das* [*AmSp*] a fierce, pikelike fish of tropical seas

bar-rage (bə rāzh', -rāj') *n.* [*Fr < barrer, to stop*] 1 artillery fire that holds down the enemy while one's army attacks 2 any prolonged attack —*vi., vt. -raged', -rag'ing* to subject to a barrage

barred (bärd) *adj.* 1 having bars or stripes 2 closed off with bars 3 not allowed

bar-rel (bar'əl) *n.* [*< ML barillus*] 1 a large, cylindrical container with slightly bulging sides and flat ends 2 a similar cylindrical container 3 the capacity of a standard barrel, used as a measure 4 the straight tube of a gun — *vt. -reled or -relled, -rel-ing or -rel-ling* to put in barrels —*vi.* [*Slang*] to go at high speed

bar'el-ful' (-fool') *n.* 1 as much as a barrel will hold 2 [*Inf.*] a great amount

bar'el-head' *n.* the flat end of a barrel —**on the barrelhead** when delivered [*to pay cash on the barrelhead*]

barrel organ a mechanical musical instrument played by turning a crank

bar-ren (bar'ən) *adj.* [*< OFr*] 1 that cannot bear offspring; sterile 2 without vegetation 3 unproductive 4 boring; dull 5 devoid (*of*) —**bar'ren-ness** *n.*

bar-rette (bə ret') *n.* [*Fr*] a bar or clasp for holding a woman's hair in place

bar-ri-cade (bar'i kād'; *also, esp. for v., bar'ə kād'*) *n.* [*Fr < It barricare, fortify*] a barrier, esp. one put up hastily for defense —*vt. -cad'ed, -cad'ing* to block with a barricade

bar-ri-er (bar'ē ər) *n.* [*< ML barra*] 1 an obstruction, as a fence 2 anything that blocks or hinders

bar-ring (bär'in) *prep.* excepting

bar-ris-ter (bar'is tər) *n.* [*< bar (law court)*] in England, a lawyer who pleads cases in court

bar'room' *n.* a room with a bar where alcoholic drinks are sold

bar-row¹ (bar'ō) *n.* [*< OE beran, to bear*] a handbarrow or wheelbarrow

bar-row² (bar'ō) *n.* [*< OE beorg, hill*] a heap of earth or rocks covering a grave

bar'tend'er *n.* one who serves alcoholic drinks at a bar

bar-ter (bärt'ər) *vi., vt.* [*< OFr barater*] to trade by exchanging (goods) without money —*n.* 1 a bartering 2 anything bartered —**bar'ter-er** *n.*

Bar-tók (bär'tôk'), Bé-la (bä'lä) 1881-

1945; Hung. composer

bar·y·on (bar'ē än') *n.* [*< Gr barys, heavy + (ELECTR)ON*] any of certain subatomic particles including the proton and neutron

ba·sal (bā'səl) *adj.* 1 of or at the base 2 basic; fundamental

basal metabolism the minimum quantity of energy used by an organism at rest to sustain its life

ba·salt (bə sôlt', bā'sôlt') *n.* [*L basaltes*] a hard, dark volcanic rock

base¹ (bās) *n.* [*< Gr basis*] 1 the thing or part on which something rests 2 the most important element or principal ingredient 3 the part of a word to which affixes are attached 4 a basis 5 any of the four markers a baseball player must consecutively touch to score a run 6 a headquarters or a source of supply 7 *Chem.* a substance that forms a salt when it reacts with an acid —*adj.* forming a base —*vt.* based, **bas'ing** 1 to make a base for 2 to establish

base² (bās) *adj.* **bas'er, bas'est** [*< VL bassus, low*] 1 mean; ignoble 2 menial 3 poor in quality 4 of comparatively low worth [*base metal*] —**base'ly** *adv.* —**base'ness** *n.*

base'ball *n.* 1 a game played with a ball and bat by two opposing teams on a field with four bases forming a diamond 2 the ball used in this game

base'board *n.* a board or molding at the base of a wall

base hit *Baseball* a play in which the batter hits a fair ball and gets on base without an error or without forcing out a teammate

base'less *adj.* having no basis in fact; unfounded —**base'less-ness** *n.*

base line 1 a line serving as a base 2 *Baseball* the lane between any two consecutive bases 3 *Basketball, Tennis* the line at either end of the court Also **base'line**

base'man (-mən) *n., pl. -men* (-mən) *Baseball* an infielder stationed at first, second, or third base

base'ment *n.* the story below the main floor

base on balls *Baseball* WALK

base pay the basic rate of pay not counting overtime pay, etc.

base runner *Baseball* a player who is on base or is trying to reach a base

bash (bash) *vt.* [*echoic*] [*Inf.*] to hit hard —*n.* [*Slang*] a party

bash'ful (-fəl) *adj.* [(A)BASH + -FUL] easily embarrassed; shy —**bash'ful-ly** *adv.* —**bash'ful-ness** *n.*

bas·ic (bā'sik) *adj.* 1 fundamental 2 *Chem.* alkaline —*n.* a basic principle, factor, etc. —**bas'i-cal-ly** *adv.*

BASIC (bā'sik) *n.* [*B(eginner's) A(ll-purpose) S(ymbolic) I(nstruction) C(ode)*] a simple computer language that uses common words and algebra.

bas·il (bā'zəl, baz'əl) *n.* [*< Gr basilikon*] a fragrant herb of the mint family, used in cooking

ba·sil·i·ca (bə sil'i kə) *n.* [*< Gr basilikē (stoa), royal (portico)*] 1 a church with a broad nave, side aisles, and an apse 2 *R.C.Ch.* a church with certain ceremonial rights

ba·sin (bā'sin) *n.* [*< VL bacca, water vessel*] 1 a wide, shallow container for liquid 2 its contents 3 a sink 4 any shallow, rounded hollow, often containing water 5 RIVER BASIN

ba·sis (bā'sis) *n., pl. -ses' (-sēz')* [*< Gr, a base*] 1 a base or foundation 2 a principal constituent 3 a fundamental principle or theory

bask (bask) *vi.* [*ME basken, to wallow*] 1 to warm oneself pleasantly 2 to enjoy a warm feeling from being in a certain situation

bas·ket (bas'kit) *n.* [*ME*] 1 a container made of interwoven cane, wood strips, etc. 2 its contents 3 *Basketball* a) the goal, a round, open, hanging net b) a goal made by shooting the ball through this net

bas'ket·ball *n.* [*invented & named (1891) by James A. Naismith (1861-1939)*] 1 a team game played with a bouncy, round ball on a court having a raised basket at each end 2 this ball

basket weave a weave of fabrics resembling the weave used in making baskets

bas'ket·work *n.* work that is woven like a basket; wickerwork

bas mitz·vah (bäs mits'və) BAT MITZVAH

Basque (bask) *n.* 1 a member of a people living in the W Pyrenees 2 the language of this people —*adj.* of the Basques

bas·re·lief (bā'ri lēf', bas'-) *n.* [*Fr < It: see BASS¹ & RELIEF*] sculpture in which figures project slightly from a flat background

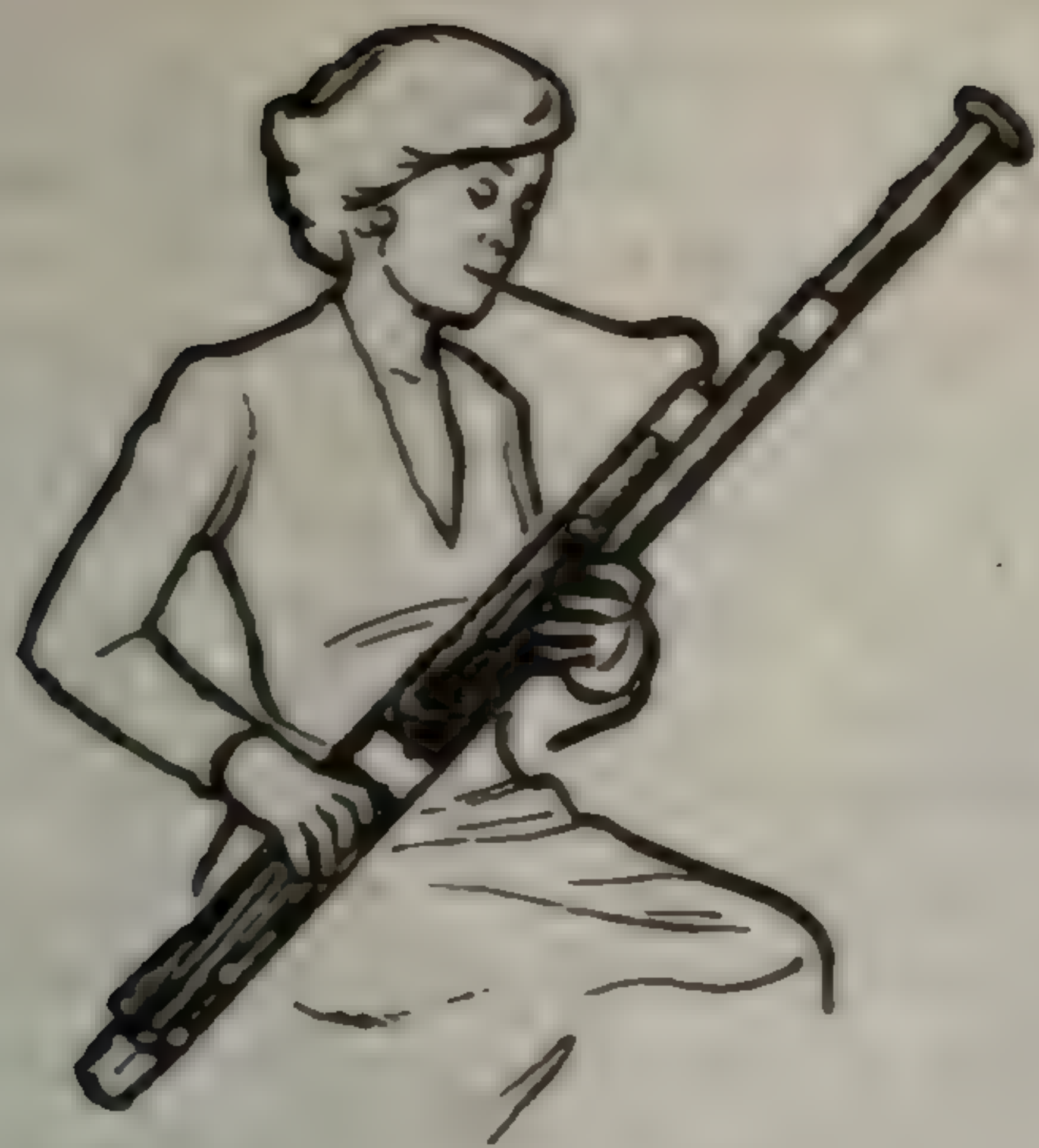
bass¹ (bās) *n.* [*< VL bassus, low*] 1 the range of the lowest male voice 2 a voice, singer, or instrument with such a range; specif., a double bass 3 a part for a bass 4 a low, deep sound —*adj.* of or for a bass

bass² (bas) *n., pl. bass or bass'es* [*OE baers*] a spiny-finned food and game fish of fresh or salt water

bas·set (bas'it) *n.* [*< OFr bas, low*] a hunting hound with a long body, short forelegs, and long, drooping ears

bas·si·net (bas'ə net') *n.* [*< Fr dim. of berceau, a cradle*] a basketlike bed for an infant, often hooded and on wheels

bas·so (bas'ō, bäs'-) *n., pl. -sos or -si* (-sē) [*< VL bassus, low*] a bass voice or singer



BASSOON

bas-soon (ba soon', bə-) *n.* [*< VL bassus, low*] a double-reed bass woodwind instrument

bast (bast) *n.* [*OE bæst*] plant fiber used in ropes, mats, etc.

bas-tard (bas'tərd) *n.* [*< OFr*] an illegitimate child —*adj.* 1 of illegitimate birth 2 inferior, sham, etc. —**bas'tardy** (-tər də) *n.*

bas-tard-ize (bas'tər dīz') *vt.* -ized', -iz'ing 1 to make, declare, or show to be a bastard 2 to make corrupt; debase —**bas'tard-i-za'tion** *n.*

baste¹ (bāst) *vt.* **bast'ed, bast'ing** [*< Gmc bastjan, make with bast*] to sew temporarily with long, loose stitches until properly sewed

baste² (bāst) *vt.* **bast'ed, bast'ing** [*< OFr bassin, basin*] to moisten (meat) with melted butter, drippings, etc. while roasting —**bast'er** *n.*

baste³ (bāst) *vt.* **bast'ed, bast'ing** [*ON beysta*] 1 to beat soundly 2 to attack with words

bas-tille or **bas-tile** (bas tēl') *n.* [*< OFr bastir, to build*] a prison —**the Bastille** a state prison in Paris destroyed (1789) in the French Revolution

bas-tion (bas'chən, -tē ən) *n.* [*see BASTILLE*] 1 a projection from a fortification 2 any strong defense

bat¹ (bat) *n.* [*OE batt*] 1 a stout club 2 a club to hit the ball in baseball, etc. 3 a turn at batting 4 [*Inf.*] a blow —*vt.* **bat'ted, bat'ting** to hit, as with a bat —*vi.* to take a turn at batting

bat² (bat) *n.* [*< Scand*] a furry, nocturnal flying mammal with membranous wings

bat³ (bat) *vt.* **bat'ted, bat'ting** [*< OFr battre, to batter*] [*Inf.*] to wink —**not bat an eye** [*Inf.*] not show surprise

batch (bach) *n.* [*OE bacan, to bake*] 1 the amount (of bread, etc.) in one baking 2 one set, lot, group, etc. 3 an amount of work for processing by a computer in a single run

bate (bāt) *vt.* **bat'ed, bat'ing** [*< OFr abattre, beat down*] to abate or lessen —**with bated breath** holding the breath, as in fear

bath (bath) *n., pl.* **baths** (bathz, baths) [*OE bæth*] 1 a washing, esp. of the body, in water 2 water, etc. for bathing or for soaking or treating something 3 a bathtub 4 a bathroom 5 a BATH-HOUSE (sense 1)

bathe (bāth) *vt.* **bathed, bath'ing** [*OE bæth*] 1 to put into a liquid 2 to give a bath to 3 to cover as with liquid —*vi.* 1 to take a bath 2 to soak oneself in something —**bath-er** (bā'thər) *n.*

bath'house *n.* 1 a public building for taking baths 2 a building used by bathers for changing clothes

bathing suit a swimsuit

bath'mat *n.* a mat used in or next to a bathtub

ba-thos (bā'thās') *n.* [*< Gr bathys, deep*] 1 ANTICLIMAX (sense 1) 2 excessive sentimentality 3 triteness —**ba-thet-ic** (bə thet'ik) *adj.*

bath'robe *n.* a loose robe worn to and from the bath, etc.

bath'room *n.* 1 a room with a bathtub, toilet, etc. 2 a lavatory

bath'tub *n.* a tub to bathe in

bath-y-scaph (bath'ə skaf') *n.* [*< Gr bathys, deep + skaphē, boat*] a deep-sea diving apparatus for reaching great depths without a cable: also **bath'y-scaphē** (-skaf', -skāf')

ba-tik (bə tēk') *n.* [*Malay*] cloth with a design made by dyeing only the parts not coated with wax

ba-tiste (bə tēst', ba-) *n.* [*Fr: after supposed orig. maker, Baptiste*] a fine, thin cloth of cotton, rayon, etc.

bat mitz-vah (bāt mits'və) [*also B-M-*] 1 a Jewish girl who has arrived at the age of religious responsibility, 13 years 2 the ceremony celebrating this event

ba-ton (bə tăn', ba-) *n.* [*Fr*] 1 a staff serving as a symbol of office 2 a slender stick used in directing music 3 a metal rod twirled by a drum major 4 a short, light rod used in relay races

Bat-on Rouge (bat'n rōōzh') capital of Louisiana: pop. 220,000

bat-tal-ion (bə tal'yən) *n.* [*< VL battalia, battle*] a tactical military unit forming part of a division

bat-ten¹ (bat'n) *n.* [*var. of baton*] 1 a sawed strip of wood 2 a strip of wood put over a seam between boards as a fastening or covering —*vt.* to fasten or supply with battens

bat-ten² (bat'n) *vi., vt.* [*ON batna, improve*] to fatten; thrive

bat-ten³ (bat'n) *n.* [*< OFr battre, to batter*] in a loom, the movable frame that presses into place the threads of a woof

bat-ter¹ (bat'ər) *vt.* [*< L battuere, to beat*] 1 to strike with blow after blow 2 to injure by pounding, hard wear, or use —*vi.* to pound noisily and repeatedly

bat-ter² (bat'ər) *n.* *Baseball, Cricket* the player at bat

bat-ter³ (bat'ər) *n.* [*OFr bature*] a flowing mixture of flour, milk, etc. for making pancakes, etc.

battering ram a heavy beam, etc. for battering down gates, etc.

bat-ter-y (bat'ər ē) *n., pl.* -ies [*< OFr battre, to batter*] 1 a battering 2 a set of things used together 3 *Baseball* the pitcher and the catcher 4 *Elec.* a cell or group of cells storing an electrical

charge and able to furnish a current 5
Law any illegal beating of another person: see ASSAULT AND BATTERY 6 *Mil.* a set of heavy guns, rockets, etc.

bat·ting (bat''n, -in) *n.* [[OE *batt*, BAT¹] cotton, wool, or synthetic fiber wadded into sheets

bat·tle (bat''l) *n.* [[< L *battuere*, to beat] 1 a large-scale fight between armed forces 2 armed fighting 3 any fight or conflict —*vt.*, *vi.* -tled, -tling to fight —give (or do) battle to fight

bat'tle-ax' or **bat'tle-axe'** *n.* 1 a heavy ax formerly used as a weapon 2 [Slang] a harsh, domineering woman

bat'tle-field' *n.* the site of a battle: also **bat'tle-ground'**

bat'tle-ment (-mənt) *n.* [[< OFr *batailler*, fortify] a parapet with spaces for shooting, built atop a tower, etc.

battle royal *pl.* **battles royal** 1 a free-for-all 2 a heated dispute

bat'tle-ship' *n.* a large warship with big guns and very heavy armor

bat·ty (bat''ē) *adj.* -ti-er, -ti-est [[< BAT²] [Slang] crazy or eccentric

bau·ble (bô'bəl) *n.* [[< L *bellus*, pretty] a showy trifle; trinket

baud (bôd) *n.* [[after J. M. E. Baudot (1845-1903), Fr inventor] the number of bits per second transmitted in a computer system

baux·ite (bôks'it') *n.* [[Fr, after (*Les*) *Baux*, town in S France] a claylike sedimentary rock, the chief ore of aluminum

Ba·var·i·a (bə ver'ē ə) state of SW Germany —**Ba·var'i-an** *adj.*, *n.*

bawd (bôd) *n.* [[< ? OFr *baud*, licentious] [Literary] a person, esp. a woman, who keeps a brothel

bawd·y (bô'dē) *adj.* -i-er, -i-est indecent; lewd —**bawd'i-ness** *n.*

bawl (bôl) *vi.*, *vt.* [[< ML *baulare*, to bark] 1 to shout 2 to weep loudly —*n.* 1 an outcry 2 a noisy weeping —**bawl out** [Slang] to scold angrily

bay¹ (bā) *n.* [[< ML *baia*] a wide inlet of a sea or lake, along the shoreline

bay² (bā) *n.* [[< VL *batare*, to gape] 1 an alcove or recess 2 BAY WINDOW

bay³ (bā) *vi.* [[< OFr *baier*] to bark or howl in long, deep tones —*n.* 1 the sound of baying 2 the situation of a hunted animal forced to turn and fight —**at bay** 1 cornered 2 held off —**bring to bay** to corner

bay⁴ (bā) *n.* [[< L *bacca*, berry] 1 LAUREL (*n.* 1) 2 [*pl.*] a laurel wreath

bay⁵ (bā) *adj.* [[< L *badius*] reddish-brown —*n.* 1 a reddish-brown horse, etc. 2 reddish brown

bay'ber'ry *n.*, *pl.* -ries 1 a shrub with small, wax-coated, berrylike fruit 2 the fruit

bay leaf the dried, aromatic leaf of certain laurel plants, used as a seasoning

bay·o·net (bā'ə net', bā'ə nət) *n.* [[< Fr: after *Bayonne*, city in France] a detachable blade put on a rifle muzzle, for stabbing —*vt.*, *vi.* -net'ed or -net'ted, -net'ing or -net'ting to stab with a

bayonet

bay·ou (bī'oo') *n.* [[< AmInd *bayuk*, small stream] in S U.S., a marshy inlet or outlet of a lake, river, etc.

bay window 1 a window or set of windows jutting out from a wall 2 [Slang] a large protruding belly

ba·zaar (bə zār') *n.* [[Pers *bāzār*] 1 a marketplace, esp. in the Middle East 2 a benefit sale for a church, etc.

ba·zoo·ka (bə zoo'kə) *n.* [[< name of a comic horn] a portable weapon for launching armor-piercing rockets

BB (bē'bē') *n.*, *pl.* **BB's** [[designation of size] a pellet of shot (diameter, .18 in.) fired from an air rifle (**BB gun**) or shotgun

bbl *abbrev.* barrel

BC *abbrev.* 1 before Christ: also **B.C.** 2 British Columbia

B cell any of the lymphatic leukocytes not derived from the thymus, that build antibodies: cf. **T CELL**

be (bē) *vi.* **was** or **were**, **been**, **being** [[OE *beon*] 1 to exist; live 2 to happen; occur 3 to remain or continue *Note:* *be* is used to link its subject to a predicate complement [*she is nice*] or as an auxiliary: (1) with a past participle: *a*) to form the passive voice [*he will be sued*] *b*) [Archaic] to form the perfect tense [*Christ is risen*] (2) with a present participle to express continuation [*he is running*] (3) with a present participle or infinitive to express futurity, possibility, obligation, intention, etc. [*she is going soon*, *he is to cut it*] *Be* is conjugated in the present indicative: (I) *am*, (he, she, it) *is*, (we, you, they) *are*; in the past indicative: (I, he, she, it) *was*, (we, you, they) *were*

Be *Chem.* symbol for beryllium

be- [[< OE *bi-*, *be-*, *at*] *prefix* 1 around [*beset*] 2 completely [*bedeck*] 3 away [*betake*] 4 about [*bemoan*] 5 to make [*besot*] 6 to furnish with, affect by [*becloud*]

beach (bēch) *n.* [[E dial., pebbles] a sandy shore —*vt.*, *vi.* to ground (a boat) on a beach

beach'comb'er (-kōm'ər) *n.* 1 COMBER (sense 2) 2 one who lives on items found on beaches —**beach'comb'ing** *n.*

beach'head' *n.* a position gained, specif. by invading an enemy shore

beach'wear' *n.* garments worn at the beach, as swimsuits

bea·con (bē'kən) *n.* [[< OE *beacen*, a signal] 1 a light for warning or guiding 2 a radio transmitter sending guiding signals for aircraft

bead (bēd) *n.* [[< OE *bed*, prayer bead] 1 a small ball of glass, etc., pierced for stringing 2 [*pl.*] a rosary 3 [*pl.*] a string of beads 4 any small, round object, as the front sight of a rifle 5 a drop or bubble 6 the rim edge of a rubber tire —*vt.* to decorate with beads —**draw a bead on** to take careful aim at —**say one's beads** to pray with a rosary —**bead'y**, -i-er, -i-est, *adj.*

bea·dle (bēd'l) *n.* [[ME *bidel*] [Historical] a minor officer in the Church of England, who kept order in church

bea·gle (bē'gəl) *n.* [[< ? Fr *bee gueule*,

wide throat] a small hound with short legs and drooping ears

beak (bēk) *n.* [*< L beccus*] 1 a bird's bill 2 a beaklike part, as the snout of various insects

beak·er (bēk'ər) *n.* [*< ? Gr bikos, vessel with handles*] 1 a goblet 2 *Chem.* a glass or metal container with a beaklike lip for pouring

beam (bēm) *n.* [ME] 1 a long, thick piece of wood, metal, etc. 2 the cross-bar of a balance 3 a ship's breadth at its widest point 4 a shaft of light, etc. 5 a radiant look, smile, etc. 6 a steady radio or radar signal for guiding aircraft or ships —*vt.* 1 to give out (shafts of light) 2 to direct (a radio signal, etc.) —*vi.* 1 to shine brightly 2 to smile warmly —*on the beam* [Inf.] working well

bean (bēn) *n.* [OE *bean*] 1 a plant of the pea family, bearing kidney-shaped seeds 2 the edible, smooth seed of this plant 3 any beanlike seed [*coffee bean*] 4 [Slang] the head or brain. —*vt.* [Slang] to hit on the head —*full of beans* [Slang] lively —*spill the beans* [Inf.] to tell a secret

bear¹ (ber) *vt.* bore, borne or born, *bea·ring* [OE *beran*] 1 to carry 2 to have or show 3 to give birth to 4 to produce or yield 5 to support or sustain 6 to withstand or endure 7 to need [*this bears watching*] 8 to carry or conduct (oneself) 9 to give [*to bear witness*] —*vi.* 1 to be productive 2 to lie, point, or move in a given direction 3 to have bearing (*on*) 4 to tolerate —*bear down (on)* 1 to exert pressure or effort (*on*) 2 to approach —*bear out* to confirm —*bear up* to endure —*bear'a·ble adj.* —*bear'er n.*

bear² (ber) *n., pl.* bears or bear [OE *bera*] 1 a large, heavy mammal with shaggy fur and a short tail 2 one who is clumsy, rude, etc. 3 one who sells stocks, etc. hoping to buy them back later at a lower price 4 [Slang] a difficult task —*adj.* falling in price —*bear'like adj.*

beard (bird) *n.* [OE] 1 the hair on the chin and cheeks of a man 2 any beardlike part 3 an awn —*vt.* 1 to defy 2 to provide with a beard —*beard'ed adj.* —*beard'less adj.*

bear·ing (ber'in) *n.* 1 way of carrying and conducting oneself 2 a supporting part 3 a producing or ability to produce 4 endurance 5 [*often pl.*] relative direction or position 6 [*pl.*] awareness of one's situation 7 relevance; relation 8 a part of a machine on which another part revolves, slides, etc.

bear'ish adj. 1 bearlike; rude, rough, etc. 2 falling, or causing, expecting, etc. a fall, in prices on the stock exchange —*bear'ish·ly adv.*

bé·ar·naise sauce (bā'är nāz') a creamy sauce, esp. for meat or fish

bear'skin' n. 1 the fur or hide of a bear 2 a rug, coat, etc. made from this

beast (bēst) *n.* [*< L bestia*] 1 any large, four-footed animal 2 one who is gross, brutal, etc.

beast'ly adj. -li·er, -li·est 1 of or like a beast; brutal, etc. 2 [Inf.] disagreeable;

unpleasant —*beast'li·ness n.*

beast of burden any animal used for carrying things

beast of prey any animal that hunts and kills other animals for food

beat (bēt) *vt.* beat, *bea'ten*, *bea'ting* [OE *beatan*] 1 to hit repeatedly; pound 2 to punish by so hitting; whip, spank, etc. 3 to dash repeatedly against 4 *a)* to form (a path, etc.) by repeated treading or riding *b)* to keep walking on 5 to mix (eggs, etc.) by hard stirring 6 to move (esp. wings) up and down 7 to search through (a forest, etc.) 8 to defeat or outdo 9 to mark (time or rhythm) by tapping, etc. 10 [Inf.] to baffle 11 [Inf.] to cheat or trick 12 [Slang] to escape the penalties of (an indictment, rap, etc.) —*vi.* 1 to hit or dash repeatedly 2 to throb, vibrate, etc. —*n.* 1 a beating, as of the heart 2 any of a series of movements, blows, etc. 3 a throb 4 a habitual route 5 the unit of musical rhythm 6 **BEATNIK** —*adj.* 1 [Inf.] tired out 2 of a group of young persons, esp. of the 1950s, expressing social disillusionment by unconventional dress, actions, etc. —*beat down* to put or force down —*beat it!* [Slang] go away! —*beat off* to drive back —*beat up (on)* [Slang] to give a beating to —*beat'er n.*

bea'ten adj. 1 shaped by hammering 2 much traveled [*a beaten path*] 3 crushed in spirit; defeated 4 tired out

be·a·tif·ic (bē'ə tif'ik) *adj.* 1 making blessed 2 showing happiness or delight

be·at·i·fy (bē at'ə fī') *vt.* -fied', -fy'ing [*< L beatus, happy + facere, to make*] 1 to make blissfully happy 2 *R.C.Ch.* to declare (a deceased person) to be in heaven —*be·at·i·fi·ca'tion n.*

bea'ting n. 1 the act of one that beats 2 a whipping 3 a throbbing 4 a defeat

be·at·i·tude (bē at'ə tōd') *n.* [*< L beatus, happy*] perfect blessedness or happiness —*the Beatitudes* the pronouncements in the Sermon on the Mount

beat·nik (bēt'nik) *n.* a member of the beat group

beat'up' adj. [Slang] worn-out, dilapidated, etc.

beau (bō) *n., pl.* beaus or beaux (bōz) [Fr *< L bellus, pretty*] [Old-fashioned] a woman's sweetheart

beau·te·ous (byōt'ē əs) *adj.* [ME] beautiful —*beau'te·ous·ly adv.*

beau·ti·cian (byō tish'an) *n.* one who works in a beauty shop

beau·ti·ful (byōt'ə fəl) *adj.* having beauty —*beau'ti·ful·ly adv.*

beau'ti·fy' (-fī') *vt., vi.* -fied', -fy'ing to make or become beautiful —*beau'ti·fi·ca'tion n.* —*beau'ti·fi'er n.*

beau·ty (byōt'ē) *n., pl.* -ties [*< L bellus, pretty*] 1 the quality of being very pleasing, as in form, color, etc. 2 a thing with this quality 3 good looks 4 a very attractive person, feature, etc.

beauty salon (or *shop, parlor, etc.*) a place where people, esp. women, go for hair styling, manicuring, etc.

bea-ver (bē'vər) *n.* [*< OE beofor*] 1 a large amphibious rodent with soft, brown fur, webbed hind feet, and a flat, broad tail 2 its fur

be-calm (bē kām', bi-) *vt.* 1 to make calm 2 to make (a ship) motionless from lack of wind

be-cause (bē kôz', -kuz'; bi-) *conj.* [*ME bi, by + cause*] for the reason or cause that —**because of** by reason of

beck (bek) *n.* a beckoning gesture —**at the beck and call of** at the service of

beck-on (bek'n) *vi., vt.* [*OE beacnian*] 1 to summon by a gesture 2 to lure; entice

be-cloud (bē kloud', bi-) *vt.* 1 to cloud over 2 to confuse; muddle

be-come (bē kum', bi kum') *vi.* -came', -come', -com'ing [*OE becuman*] to come or grow to be —*vt.* to befit; suit [*modesty becomes her*] —**become of** to happen to

be-com'ing *adj.* 1 appropriate; fit 2 suitable to the wearer

bed (bed) *n.* [*OE*] 1 a piece of furniture for sleeping or resting on 2 a plot of soil where plants are raised 3 the bottom of a river, lake, etc. 4 any flat surface used as a foundation 5 a geologic layer; stratum 6 the flat surface of a truck —*vt.* **bed'ded, bed'ding** 1 to put to bed 2 to provide with a sleeping place 3 to embed 4 to plant in a bed of earth 5 to arrange in layers —*vi.* 1 to go to bed; rest; sleep 2 to stratify

bed'-and-break'fast *adj., n.* (of) a hotel, etc. that provides breakfast as part of the price: also **bed and breakfast**

be-daz-zle (bē daz'al, bi-) *vt.* -zled, -zling to dazzle thoroughly; bewilder

bed'bug *n.* a small, wingless, biting insect that infests beds, etc.

bed'clothes *pl.n.* sheets, blankets, etc. for a bed

bed'cov'er *n.* a cover for a bed; bedspread

bed'ding *n.* 1 mattresses and bedclothes 2 a bottom layer; base 3 straw, etc. for animals to sleep on

be-deck (bē dek', bi-) *vt.* to adorn

be-dev-il (bē dev'al, bi-) *vt.* -iled or -illed, -il-ing or -il-ling to plague or bewilder —**be-dev'il-ment** *n.*

bed'fel'low *n.* 1 a person who shares one's bed 2 an associate, ally, etc.

be-dim (bē dim', bi-) *vt.* -dimmed', -dim'ming to make (the eyes or the vision) dim

bed-lam (bed'ləm) *n.* [*after (the old London mental hospital of St. Mary of) Bethlehem*] any place or condition of noise and confusion

bed of roses [*Inf.*] a situation or position of ease and luxury

Bed-ou-in (bed'oo in') *n., pl.* -ins or -in [*< Ar badāwīn, desert dwellers*] [*also b-*] an Arab of the desert tribes of Arabia, Syria, or N Africa

bed'pan *n.* a shallow pan for use as a toilet by one confined to bed

be-drag-gle (bē drag'al, bi-) *vt.* -gled,

-gling to make wet, limp, and dirty, as by dragging through mire

bed'rid'den (-rid'n) *adj.* confined to bed by illness, infirmity, etc.

bed'rock *n.* 1 solid rock beneath the soil, etc. 2 a foundation or bottom

bed'roll *n.* a portable roll of bedding, as for sleeping outdoors

bed'room *n.* a room for sleeping

bed'side *n.* the space beside a bed —*adj.* near a bed

bed'sore *n.* a sore on the body of a bedridden person, caused by chafing

bed'spread *n.* an ornamental spread covering the blanket on a bed

bed'stead (-sted') *n.* a framework for supporting the mattress, etc. of a bed

bed'time *n.* one's usual time for going to bed

bee¹ (bē) *n.* [*OE beo*] a broad-bodied, four-winged, hairy insect that gathers pollen and nectar and that can sting

bee² (bē) *n.* [*OE ben, compulsory service*] a meeting of people to work together or to compete [*a spelling bee*]

beech (bēch) *n.* [*OE bece*] 1 a tree with smooth, gray bark, hard wood, and edible nuts 2 its wood

beech'nut *n.* the small, three-cornered, edible nut of the beech tree

beef (bēf) *n., pl.* for 1 & 5, **beefs**; for 1, also **beeves** [*< L bos, ox*] 1 a full-grown ox, cow, bull, or steer, esp. one bred for meat 2 such animals collectively 3 their meat 4 [*Inf.*] *a*) human flesh *b*) strength 5 [*Slang*] a complaint —*vi.* [*Slang*] to complain —**beef up** [*Inf.*] to reinforce

beef'cake *n.* [*BEEF (n. 4a) + (CHEESE)CAKE*] [*Inf.*] display of the figure of a nude or partly nude, muscular man, as in a photograph

beef'steak *n.* a thick slice of beef for broiling or frying

beef'y *adj.* -i-er, -i-est brawny —**beef'i-ness** *n.*

bee'hive *n.* 1 a shelter for a colony of bees 2 a place of great activity

bee'keep'er *n.* one who keeps bees for producing honey —**bee'keep'ing** *n.*

bee'line *n.* a straight line or direct route

Be-el-ze-bub (bē el'zə bub') *n.* *Bible* the chief devil; Satan

been (bin; often ben) *vi. pp.* of BE

beep (bēp) *n.* [*echoic*] the brief, high-pitched sound of a horn or electronic signal —*vi., vt.* to make or cause to make this sound

beer (bir) *n.* [*OE beor*] 1 an alcoholic, fermented drink made from malt and hops 2 a soft drink made from extracts of roots, etc. [*root beer*]

bees'wax *n.* wax secreted by honeybees, used to make their honeycombs: it is used in candles, etc.

beet (bēt) *n.* [*< L beta*] 1 a plant with edible leaves and a thick, fleshy, white or red root 2 the edible root, also a source of sugar

Bee-tho-ven (bā'tō'vən), **Lud-wig van** (lōot'viH vān) 1770-1827; Ger. composer

bee·tle¹ (bēt'1) *n.* [OE *bītan*, to bite] an insect with hard front wings that cover the membranous hind wings when these are folded

bee·tle² (bēt'1) *vi.* -tled, -tling [prob. < fol.] to overhang —*adj.* overhanging: also *bee'tling*

bee'tle-browed' (-broud') *adj.* [< ME < ? *bitel*, sharp + *brouwe*, brow] 1 having overhanging or bushy eyebrows 2 frowning

be·fall (bē fōl', bi-) *vi., vt.* -fell', -fall'en, -fall'ing [< OE *be-*, BE- + *feallan*, to fall] to happen or occur (to)

be·fit (bē fit', bi-) *vt.* -fit'ted, -fit'ting to be suitable or proper for; be suited to — *be-fit'ting adj.*

be·fog (bē fōg', -fäg'; bi-) *vt.* -fogged', -fog'ging 1 to envelop in fog; make foggy 2 to obscure; confuse

be·fore (bē fōr', bi-) *adv.* [OE *be-*, by + *foran*, fore] 1 ahead; in front 2 previously 3 earlier; sooner —*prep.* 1 ahead of in time, space, order, etc. 2 located in front of 3 in or into the sight, presence, etc. of 4 earlier than; prior to 5 in preference to 6 being considered, judged, or decided by [a case *before* the court] —*conj.* 1 earlier than the time that [call *before* you go] 2 rather than [I'd die *before* I'd tell]

be·fore'hand' *adv., adj.* ahead of time; in anticipation

be·foul (bē foul', bi-) *vt.* 1 to make filthy 2 to slander

be·friend (bē frend', bi-) *vt.* to act as a friend to

be·fud·dle (bē fud'l, bi-) *vt.* -dled, -dling to confuse or stupefy

beg (beg) *vt., vi.* begged, beg'ging [< Du *beggaert*, religious mendicant] 1 to ask for (alms) 2 to ask earnestly; entreat —*beg off* to ask to be released from —*go begging* to be available but unwanted

be·gan (bē gan', bi-) *vi., vt. pt. of BEGIN*

be·get (bē get', bi-) *vt.* -got' or [Archaic] -gat' (-gat'), -got'ten or -got', -get'ting [< OE *begietan*, acquire] 1 to be the father of 2 to produce; cause

beg·gar (beg'ər) *n.* 1 one who begs 2 a pauper —*vt.* 1 to make poor 2 to make (a description, etc.) seem inadequate — *beg'gar-y, pl. -ies, n.*

beg'gar·ly *adj.* very poor, worthless, inadequate, etc.

be·gin (bē gin', bi-) *vi., vt.* -gan', -gun', -gin'ning [< OE *beginnan*] 1 to start doing, acting, etc. 2 to originate 3 to have a first part or be the first part of

be·gin'ner *n.* one just beginning to do or learn something; novice

be·gin'ning *n.* 1 a starting 2 the time or place of starting; origin 3 the first part 4 [usually *pl.*] an early stage or example

be·gone (bē gōn', bi-) *interj., vi.* (to) be gone; go away; get out

be·gon·ia (bi gōn'yə) *n.* [after M. Bégon (1638-1710), Fr patron of science] a tropical plant with showy flowers and ornamental leaves

be·got (bē gät', bi-) *vt. pt. & alt. pp. of BEGET*

be·got'ten *vt. alt. pp. of BEGET*

be·grime (bē grīm', bi-) *vt.* -grimed', -grim'ing to cover with grime; soil

be·grudge (bē gruj', bi gruj') *vt.* -grudged', -grudg'ing 1 to resent another's possession of (something) 2 to give with reluctance —*be-grudg'ing-ly adv.*

be·guile (bē gīl', bi-) *vt.* -guiled', -guil'ing 1 to mislead by tricking, etc.; deceive 2 to deprive of or cheat out of by deceit 3 to pass (time) pleasantly 4 to charm or delight —*be-guile'ment n.* —*be-guil'er n.*

be·gun (bē gun', bi-) *vi., vt. pp. of BEGIN*

be·half (bē haf', bi-) *n.* [OE *be*, by + *healf*, side] support —*in (or on) behalf of* in the interest of; for

be·have (bē hāv', bi-) *vt., vi.* -haved', -hav'ing [see BE- & HAVE] 1 to conduct (oneself) in a specified way; act 2 to conduct (oneself) properly

be·hav'ior (-yər) *n.* way of behaving; conduct or action —*be-hav'ior-al adj.*

behavioral science any of the sciences, as sociology, that study human behavior

be·head (bē hed', bi-) *vt.* to cut off the head of

be·held (bē held', bi-) *vt. pt. & pp. of BEHOLD*

be·he·moth (bə hē'məth) *n.* [< Heb *behema*, beast] 1 Bible some huge animal 2 any huge or powerful animal or thing

be·hest (bē hest', bi-) *n.* [< OE *behæts*, a vow] an order, command, or request

be·hind (bē hīnd', bi-) *adv.* [< OE *behindan*] 1 in or to the rear 2 in a former time, place, etc. 3 in or into arrears 4 slow; late —*prep.* 1 remaining after 2 in or to the rear of 3 inferior to in position, achievement, etc. 4 later than [*behind* schedule] 5 beyond 6 gone by or ended for [*school was behind* him now] 7 supporting [*behind* their team] 8 prompting or instigating [*behind* the plot] 9 hidden by [*what's behind* this news] —*n.* [Inf.] the buttocks

be·hind'hand' *adv., adj.* behind in payment, time, or progress

be·hold (bē hōld', bi-) *vt.* -held', -hold'ing [< OE *bihealdan*] to look at; see —*interj.* look! see! —*be-hold'er n.*

be·hold'en *adj.* obliged to feel grateful; indebted

be·hoove (bē hōv', bi-) *vt.* -hooved', -hoov'ing [< OE *behofian*, to need] to be incumbent upon or proper for [it *behooves* you to drive carefully]

beige (bāzh) *n., adj.* [Fr] grayish tan

Bei·jing (bā'jin', -zhin') capital of China, in the NE part: pop. 5,531,000

be·ing (bē'in) *n.* [see BE] 1 existence; life 2 fundamental nature 3 one that lives or exists 4 personality —*being as (or that)* [Inf. or Dial.] since; because — *for the time being* for now

Bei·rut (bā rōt') seaport & capital of Lebanon: pop. c. 1,500,000

be·jew·el (bē jōw'al, bi-) *vt.* -eled or

-elled, -el-ing or -el-ling to decorate with or as with jewels

be-la-bor (bē lā'bər, bi-) *vt.* 1 to beat severely 2 to scold 3 to spend too much time on

Bel-a-rus (bel'ə rōs') country in central Europe: formerly part of the U.S.S.R.: 80,134 sq. mi.; pop. 10,152,000

be-lat-ed (bē lāt'id, bi-) *adj.* late or too late —**be-lat'ed-ly** *adv.*

be-lay (bi lā') *vt., vi.* -layed', -lay'ing [*<* OE *beleggan*, make fast] 1 to make (a rope) secure by winding around a cleat, etc. 2 [*Inf.*] *Naut.* to hold; stop 3 to secure by a rope

bel can-to (bel'kän'tō) [*It.*] a style of singing with brilliant vocal display

belch (belch) *vi., vt.* [*OE bealcian*] 1 to expel (gas) through the mouth from the stomach 2 to throw forth (its contents) violently —*n.* a belching

be-lea-guer (bē lē'gər, bi-) *vt.* [*<* Du *<* *be-*, around + *leger*, a camp] 1 to besiege by encircling 2 to beset or harass

Bel-fast (bel'fast) seaport & capital of Northern Ireland: pop. 284,000

bel-fry (bel'frē) *n., pl. -fries* [*ult. <* OHG] 1 a bell tower 2 the part of a tower that holds the bells

Belg Belgium

Bel-gium (bel'jəm) kingdom in W Europe: 11,778 sq. mi.; pop. 9,979,000 —**Bel'gian** *adj., n.*

Bel-grade (bel'grād', -grād') capital of Yugoslavia: pop. 1,470,000

be-lie (bē lī', bi-) *vt.* -lied', -ly'ing 1 to disguise or misrepresent 2 to leave unfulfilled; disappoint 3 to prove false

be-lief (bə lēf', bē-) *n.* [*<* OE *geleafa*] 1 conviction that certain things are true 2 religious faith 3 trust or confidence 4 creed or doctrine 5 an opinion; expectation; judgment

be-lieve (bə lēv', bē-) *vt.* -lieved', -liev'ing [*<* OE *geliefan*] 1 to take as true, real, etc. 2 to trust a statement or promise of (a person) 3 to suppose or think —*vi.* to have trust, faith, or confidence (*in*) —**be-liev'a-ble** *adj.* —**be-liev'er** *n.*

be-lit-tle (bē lit'l, bi-) *vt.* -tled, -tling to make seem little, less important, etc. —**be-lit'tle-ment** *n.*

Be-lize (bə lēz') country in Central America, on the Caribbean: 8,866 sq. mi.; pop. 184,000

bell (bel) *n.* [*OE belle*] 1 a hollow, cup-like object, as of metal, which rings when struck 2 the sound of a bell 3 anything shaped like a bell 4 *Naut.* a bell rung to mark the periods of the watch —*vt.* to attach a bell to —*vi.* to flare out like a bell.

Bell (bel), **Alex-an-der Gra-ham** (al'ig zan'dər grā'əm) 1847-1922; U.S. inventor of the telephone, born in Scotland

bel-la-don-na (bel'ə dān'ə) *n.* [*<* It, beautiful lady] 1 a poisonous plant with purplish flowers and black berries 2 **ATROPINE**

bell'-bot-tom *adj.* flared at the ankles,

as trousers or slacks: also **bell'-bot-tomed** —*n.* [*pl.*] bell-bottom trousers

bell'boy *n.* **BELLHOP**

belle (bel) *n.* [*Fr, fem. of beau*] a pretty woman or girl

belles-let-tres (bel le'tr', -trə) *pl.n.* [*Fr*] literature as distinguished from technical writings

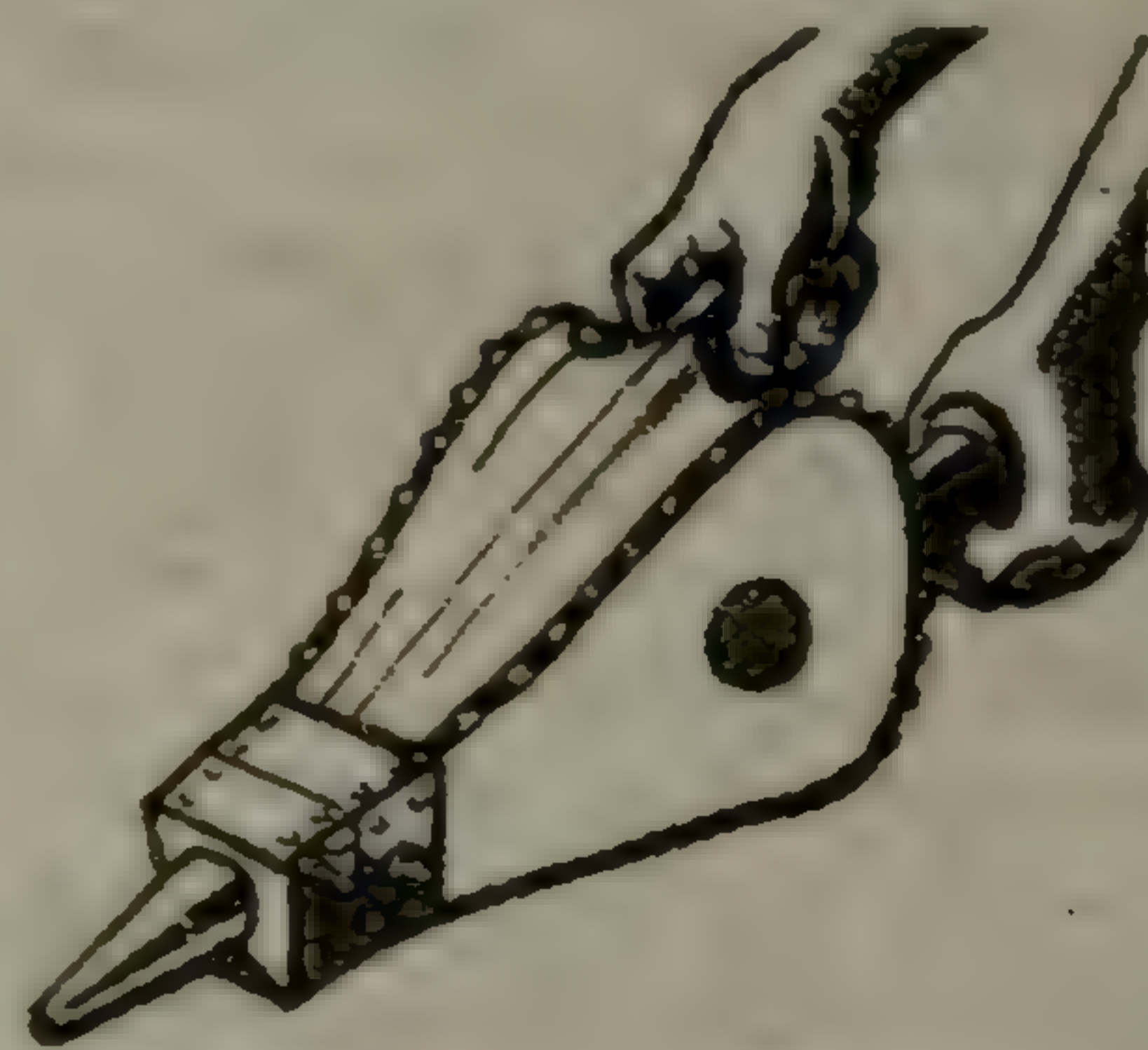
bell'hop *n.* one employed by a hotel, club, etc. to carry luggage and do errands

bel-li-cose (bel'i kōs') *adj.* [*<* L *bellicus*, of war] quarrelsome; warlike —**bel'li-cos'i-ty** (-kās'ə tē) *n.*

bel-lig-er-ent (bə lij'ər ənt) *adj.* [*<* L *bellum*, war + *gerere*, carry on] 1 at war 2 of war 3 warlike 4 ready to fight or quarrel —*n.* a belligerent person, group, or nation —**bel-lig'er-ence** *n.* —**bel-lig'er-en-cy** *n.* —**bel-lig'er-ent-ly** *adv.*

bell jar a bell-shaped container made of glass, used to keep air, moisture, etc. in or out: also **bell glass**

bel-low (bel'ō) *vi.* [*<* OE *bylgan*] 1 to roar with a reverberating sound, as a bull 2 to cry out loudly, as in anger —*vt.* to utter loudly or powerfully —*n.* a bellowing sound



BELLOWS

bel-lows (bel'ōz') *n.* [*<* ME *beli*, belly] [*with sing. or pl. v.*] 1 a device that forces air out when its sides are pressed together: used in pipe organs, for blowing fires, etc. 2 anything like a bellows

bell pepper a large, sweet red pepper

Bell's palsy [*after C. Bell* (1774-1842), Scot anatomist] a sudden, usually temporary paralysis of the muscles on one side of the face

bell-weth'er (bel'weth'ər) *n.* [*ME*] 1 a male sheep, usually wearing a bell, that leads the flock 2 a leader

bel-ly (bel'ē) *n., pl. -lies* [*<* OE *belg*, leather bag] 1 the part of the body between the chest and thighs; abdomen 2 the underside of an animal's body 3 the stomach 4 the deep interior, as of a ship —*vt., vi.* -lied, -ly-ing to swell out

bel'ly-ache *n.* pain in the abdomen —*vi.* -ached', -ach'ing [*Slang*] to complain

bel'ly-but-ton *n.* [*Inf.*] the navel

bel'ly-ful (-fool') *n.* 1 enough or more than enough to eat 2 [*Slang*] all that one can bear

belly laugh [*Inf.*] a hearty laugh

be-long (bē lōn', bi-) *vi.* [*<* ME] 1 to have a proper place [*it belongs here*] 2 to be related (*to*) 3 to be a member: with *to* 4 to be owned: with *to*

be-long'ings *pl.n.* possessions

be-lov-ed (bi luv'id, -ludv') *adj.* [ME *biloven*] dearly loved —*n.* a dearly loved person

be-low (bi lō') *adv., adj.* [see BE- & LOW¹] 1 in or to a lower place; beneath 2 later (in a book, etc.) 3 in or to hell 4 on earth 5 under in rank, amount, etc. —*prep.* 1 lower than 2 unworthy of

Bel-shaz-zar (bel shaz'ər) *n.* Bible the last king of Babylon

belt (belt) *n.* [ult. < L *balteus*] 1 a band of leather, etc. worn around the waist 2 any encircling thing like this 3 an endless band for transferring motion, as with pulleys, or conveying things 4 a distinctive area [the Corn Belt] 5 [Inf.] a hard blow; punch 6 [Slang] *a*) a gulp, esp. of liquor *b*) a thrill —*vt.* 1 to encircle or fasten with a belt 2 [Inf.] to hit hard 3 [Inf.] to sing loudly: usually with *out* 4 [Slang] to gulp (liquor): often with *down* —below the belt unfair(ly) —tighten one's belt to live more thriftily —under one's belt [Inf.] as part of one's experience

belt'-tight'en-ing *n.* an economizing —*adj.* involving the cutting of expenses

belt'way' *n.* an expressway passing around an urban area

be-moan (bē mōn', bi-) *vt., vi.* to lament

be-muse (bē myōōz', bi-) *vt.* -mused', -mus'ing [BE- + MUSE] 1 to confuse or stupefy 2 to preoccupy: usually used in the passive —be-muse'ment *n.*

bench (bench) *n.* [OE *benc*] 1 a long, hard seat 2 the place where judges sit in a court 3 [sometimes B-] *a*) the status of a judge *b*) judges collectively *c*) a law court 4 WORKBENCH 5 a seat on which members of a sports team sit when they are not playing —*vt.* Sports to take (a player) out of a game —on the bench 1 serving as a judge 2 Sports not playing

bench mark a standard in measuring, judging quality, etc.: also bench'mark' *n.*

bench. press a weight-lifting exercise, done while one is lying on a bench with the feet on the floor, in which a barbell is pushed upward from the chest —bench'-press' *vt.*

bench warrant an order issued by a judge or court for the arrest of a person

bend¹ (bend) *vt.* bent, bend'ing [< OE *bendan*, confine with a string] 1 to make curved or crooked 2 to turn, esp. from a straight line 3 to make submit —*vi.* 1 to turn, esp. from a straight line 2 to yield by curving, as from pressure 3 to curve the body; stoop (*over* or *down*) 4 to give in; yield —*n.* 1 a bending or being bent 2 a bent part —bend'a-ble *adj.*

bend² (bend) *n.* [ME < prec.] any of various knots for tying rope

be-neath (bē nēth', bi-) *adv., adj.* [OE *beneoþan*] in a lower place; underneath —*prep.* 1 below 2 under; underneath 3 unworthy of /it is beneath him to cheat/

ben-e-dic-tion (ben'ə dik'shən) *n.* [< L *bene*, well + *dicere*, speak] 1 a blessing 2 an invocation of blessing, esp. at the

end of a religious service

ben-e-fac-tion (ben'ə fak'shən) *n.* [< L *bene*, well + *facere*, do] 1 the act of helping, esp. by charitable gifts 2 the money or help given

ben-e-fac-tor (ben'ə fak'tər) *n.* one who has given help, esp. financially; patron —ben'e-fac'tress (-tris) *fem.n.*

ben-e-fice (ben'ə fis) *n.* [< L *beneficium*, a kindness] an endowed church office providing a living for a vicar, rector, etc.

be-nef-i-cence (bə nef'ə səns) *n.* [see BENEFACTION] 1 a being kind 2 a charitable act or gift

be-nef'i-cent (-sənt) *adj.* showing beneficence; doing or resulting in good —be-nef'i-cent-ly *adv.*

ben-e-fi-cial (ben'ə fish'əl) *adj.* producing benefits; advantageous; favorable —ben'e-fi'cial-ly *adv.*

ben'e-fi'ci-ary (-fish'ē er'ē, -fish'ər ē) *n., pl. -aries* anyone receiving or to receive benefits, as funds from a will or insurance policy

ben-e-fit (ben'ə fit) *n.* [see BENEFACTION] 1 anything contributing to improvement; advantage 2 [often *pl.*] payments made by an insurance company, public agency, etc. as during sickness or retirement, or for death 3 a public performance, bazaar, etc. the proceeds of which are to help some person or cause —*vt.* -fit-ed, -fit-ing to help; aid —*vi.* to receive advantage; profit

be-nev-o-lence (bə nev'ə ləns) *n.* [< L *bene*, well + *volens*, wishing] 1 an inclination to do good; kindness 2 a kindly, charitable act —be-nev'o-lent *adj.* —be-nev'o-lent-ly *adv.*

Ben-gal (ben gōl'), Bay of part of the Indian Ocean, east of India

be-night-ed (bē nīt'id, bi-) *adj.* 1 surrounded by darkness 2 not enlightened; ignorant

be-nign (bi nīn') *adj.* [< L *benignus*, good, lit., well-born] 1 good-natured; kindly 2 favorable; beneficial 3 Med. not malignant; specif., not cancerous —be-nign'ly *adv.*

be-nig-nant (bi nig'nənt) *adj.* [< prec.] 1 kindly or gracious 2 BENIGN (senses 2 & 3)

be-nig'ni-ty (-nə tē) *n.* 1 kindness 2 *pl. -ties* a kind act

Be-nin (be nēn') country in WC Africa: 43,484 sq. mi.; pop. 4,855,000

ben-i-son (ben'ə zən, -sən) *n.* [OFr < L: see BENEDICTION] [Archaic] a blessing

bent¹ (bent) *vt., vi. pt. & pp. of BEND¹* —*adj.* 1 curved or crooked 2 strongly determined: with *on* 3 [Slang] *a*) dishonest *b*) eccentric; odd —*n.* a natural leaning; propensity

bent² (bent) *n.* [OE *beonot*] a dense, low-growing grass that spreads by runners, used for lawns: also bent'grass

bent'wood' *adj.* of furniture made of wood permanently bent into various forms

be-numb (bē num', bi-) *vt.* 1 to make

numb 2 to deaden the mind, will, etc. of

ben-zene (ben'zēn, ben zēn') *n.* [ult. < Ar *lubān jāwī*, incense of Java] a clear, flammable, poisonous, aromatic liquid used as a solvent, in plastics, etc.

ben-zo-caine (ben'zō kān', -zə-) *n.* [< BENZENE & COCAINE] a white, odorless powder used in ointments as a local anesthetic and for protection against sunburn

be-queath (bē kwēth', -kwēth'; bi-) *vt.* [< OE *be-*, BE- + *cwethan*, say] 1 to leave (property) to another by one's will 2 to hand down; pass on

be-quest' (-kwest') *n.* 1 a bequeathing 2 anything bequeathed

be-rate (bē rāt', bi-) *vt.* -rat'ed, -rat'ing [BE- + RATE²] to scold severely

Ber-ber (bər'bər) *n.* 1 a member of a Muslim people of N Africa 2 the language of this people —*adj.* of the Berbers

be-reave (bē rēv', bi-) *vt.* -reaved' or -reft' (-reft'), -reav'ing [< OE *be-*, BE- + *reafian*, rob] 1 to deprive: now usually in the pp. *bereft* [*bereft* of hope] 2 to leave forlorn, as by death —*be-reave'ment n.*

be-ret (bə rā') *n.* [< Fr < L *birrus*, a hood] a flat, round cap of felt, wool, etc.

berg (bɜrg) *n.* ICEBERG

ber-i-ber-i (ber'ē ber'ē) *n.* [Sinhalese, intens. of *beri*, weakness] a disease caused by lack of vitamin B₁ and characterized by nerve disorders, etc.

Ber-ing Sea (ber'in) part of the N Pacific, between Siberia & Alaska

Bering Strait strait joining the Bering Sea with the Arctic Ocean

Berke-ley (bɜrk'lē) city in California, near San Francisco: pop. 103,000

Ber-lin (bər lin') city & state of E Germany; capital of Germany (1871-1945; 1990-): formerly divided into four sectors of occupation, the eastern sector (*East Berlin*), capital of East Germany, and three western sectors (*West Berlin*), a state of West Germany: pop. 3,305,000

berm (bɜrm) *n.* [< MDu *baerm*] 1 a ledge 2 [Dial.] a shoulder, as along the edge of a paved road

Ber-mu-da (bər myoo'də) group of British islands in the W Atlantic

Bermuda shorts knee-length pants: also *ber-mu'das pl.n.*

Bern or Berne (bɜrn) capital of Switzerland: pop. 134,000

ber-ry (ber'ē) *n., pl.* -ries [OE *berie*] 1 any small, juicy, fleshy fruit, as a strawberry 2 the dry seed of various plants, as a coffee bean —*vi.* -ried, -ry-ing 1 to produce berries 2 to pick berries —*ber'ry-like' adj.*

ber-serk (bər surk', -zɜrk'; bə-) *adj., adv.* [ON *berserkr*, warrior] in or into a violent rage or frenzy

berth (bɜrth) *n.* [< BEAR¹ + -TH¹] 1 a place where a ship anchors or moors 2 a position, job, etc. 3 a built-in bed, as on a ship or train —*vt.* to put into or

furnish with a berth —*vi.* to occupy a berth —*give* (a) *wide berth* to keep well clear of

ber-yl (ber'al) *n.* [< Gr *bēryllos*] a very hard mineral of which emerald and aquamarine are two varieties

be-ryl-li-um (bə ril'ē əm) *n.* [< L *beryl-lus*, beryl] a hard, silver-white, metallic chemical element used in forming alloys

be-seech (bē sēch', bi-) *vt.* -sought' or -seeched', -seech'ing [< OE *be-* + *secan*, seek] 1 to ask (someone) earnestly; entreat 2 to beg for —*be-seech'ing-ly adv.*

be-seem (bē sēm', bi-) *vi.* [Archaic] to be suitable or appropriate (to)

be-set (bē set', bi-) *vt.* -set', -set'ting [< OE *be-* + *settan*, set] 1 to attack from all sides; harass 2 to surround or hem in

be-set'ting adj. constantly harassing

be-side (bē sīd', bi-) *prep.* [OE *bi sidan*] 1 at the side of; near 2 in comparison with [*beside* yours my share seems small] 3 in addition to 4 other than 5 not relevant to [*that's beside the point*] —*beside oneself* wild or upset, as with fear or rage

be-sides' (-sīdz') *adv.* 1 in addition 2 except for that mentioned 3 moreover —*prep.* 1 in addition to 2 other than

be-siege (bē sēj', bi-) *vt.* -sieged', -sieg'ing 1 to hem in with armed forces 2 to crowd around 3 to overwhelm, harass, etc. [*she was besieged with queries*]

be-smear (bē smir', bi-) *vt.* [OE *bismer-ian*] to smear over; soil

be-smirch (bē smurch', bi-) *vt.* to soil

be-som (bē'zəm) *n.* [OE *besma*] a broom, esp. one made of twigs tied to a handle

be-sot (bē sāt', bi-) *vt.* -sot'ted, -sot'ting to stupefy, as with liquor —*be-sot'ted adj.*

be-sought (bē sôt', bi-) *vt. alt. pt. & alt. pp. of BESEECH*

be-span-gle (bē span'gəl, bi-) *vt.* -gled, -gling to cover with or as with spangles

be-spat-ter (bē spat'ər, bi-) *vt.* to spat-ter, as with mud or slander

be-speak (bē spēk', bi-) *vt.* -spoke' (-spök'), -spo'ken or -spoke', -speak'ing 1 to speak for in advance; reserve 2 to be indicative of; show

best (best) *adj.* [OE *betst*] 1 *superl. of* GOOD 2 most excellent 3 most suitable, desirable, etc. 4 largest [*the best part of a day*] —*adv.* 1 *superl. of* WELL² 2 in the most excellent manner 3 in the highest degree —*n.* 1 the most excellent person, thing, etc. 2 the utmost [*she did her best*] —*vt.* to defeat or outdo —*all for the best* turning out to be good after all —*at best* under the most favorable conditions —*get the best of* 1 to defeat 2 to outwit —*make the best of* to do as well as one can with

bes-tial (bes'chəl, -tyəl; often bēs'-) *adj.* [< L *bestia*, beast] like a beast; savage, brutal, etc. —*bes-tial-i-ty* (bes'chē al'ə tē, -tē; often bēs'-), *pl.* -ties, *n.*

bes-tial-ize (bes'chəl iz', -tyəl; often bēs'-) *vt.* -ized', -iz'ing to make bestial

bes·ti·ar·y (bes'tē er'ē) *n.*, *pl.* -ies [*<* L *bestia*, beast] a medieval book with fables about real or mythical animals

be·stir (bē stār', bi-) *vt.* -stirred', -stir'ring to stir to action; busy (oneself)

best man the principal attendant of the bridegroom at a wedding

be·stow (bē stō', bi-) *vt.* [*see* BE- & STOW] to present as a gift: often with *on* or *upon* —**be·stow'al** *n.*

be·strew (bē strōō', bi-) *vt.* -strewed', -strewed' or -strewn', -strew'ing 1 to cover (a surface) *with* something 2 to strew or scatter about a surface

be·stride (bē strīd', bi-) *vt.* -strode' (-strōd'), -strid'den (-strīd'n), -strīd'ing to sit on, mount, or stand over with a leg on each side

bet (bet) *n.* [*prob.* *<* ABET] 1 an agreement in which the person proved wrong about the outcome of something will do or pay what is stipulated 2 the thing or sum thus staked 3 a person or thing with regard to its likelihood of bringing about some result [a good *bet* to win the election] —*vt.*, *vi.* **bet** or **bet'ted**, **bet'ting** 1 to declare as in a bet 2 to stake (money, etc.) in a bet with (someone)

be·ta (bāt'ə) *n.* the second letter of the Greek alphabet (B, β)

beta blocker a drug used to control heartbeat, treat hypertension, etc.

beta car·o·tene (kar'ə tēn') a hydrocarbon found in butter, carrots, etc. and converted by the liver into vitamin A

be·take (bē tāk', bi-) *vt.* -took' (-took'), -tak'en, -tak'ing [*ME* *bitaken*] to go (used reflexively) [he *betook* himself to his castle]

beta particle an electron or positron ejected from the nucleus of an atom during radioactive disintegration

beta ray a stream of beta particles

be·tel nut (bēt'l) [*Port* *<* Malayalam *vettilai*] the fruit of a palm (**betel palm**), chewed together with lime and the leaves of a pepper plant (**betel pepper**) by some Asians as a mild stimulant

be·think (bē think', bi-) [*Archaic*] *vt.* -thought' (-thōt'), -think'ing [*OE* *bethencan*] to remind (oneself)

Beth·le·hem (beth'lə hem') ancient town in Judea: traditionally regarded as Jesus' birthplace

be·tide (bē tīd', bi-) *vi.*, *vt.* -tid'ed, -tid'ing [*<* *ME* *be-*, *BE-* + *tiden*, happen] to happen (to); befall

be·times (bē tīnz', bi-) *adv.* [*Archaic*] 1 early or early enough 2 promptly

be·to·ken (bē tō'kən, bi-) *vt.* [*ME* *betocnen*] 1 to be a token or sign of 2 to show beforehand; presage

be·tray (bē trā', bi-) *vt.* [*<* L *tradere*, hand over] 1 to help the enemy of (one's country, etc.) 2 to expose treacherously 3 to fail to uphold [to *betray* a trust] 4 to deceive; specif., to seduce and then desert 5 to reveal unknowingly 6 to disclose (secrets, etc.) —**be·tray'al** *n.* —**be·tray'er** *n.*

be·troth (bē trōth'; -trōth', bi-) *vt.* [*<* *ME*: *see* BE- & TRUTH] to promise in

marriage —**be·troth'al** *n.*

be·trothed' (-trōthd', -trōtht') *adj.* engaged to be married —*n.* the person to whom one is engaged

bet·ta (bet'ə) *n.* [*ModL*] a brightly colored gourami of SE Asia: often an aquarium fish

bet·ter (bet'ər) *adj.* [*OE* *betera*] 1 *compar.* of GOOD 2 more excellent 3 more suitable, desirable, etc. 4 larger [the *better* part of a day] 5 improved in health —*adv.* 1 *compar.* of WELL² 2 in a more excellent manner 3 in a higher degree 4 more —*n.* 1 a person superior in authority, etc. 2 a more excellent thing, condition, etc. —*vt.* 1 to outdo; surpass 2 to improve —**better off** in a better situation —**get (or have) the better of** 1 to outdo 2 to outwit —**had better** ought to

bet'ter·ment (-mənt) *n.* a bettering; improvement

bet·tor (bet'ər) *n.* one who bets: also **bet'ter**

be·tween (bē twēn', bi-) *prep.* [*OE* *betweenum*] 1 in the space, time, etc. that separates (two things) 2 connecting [a bond *between* friends] 3 by the joint action of 4 possessed jointly by 5 from one or the other of [choose *between* us] 6 involving *Between* is sometimes used of more than two if each part is seen as individually related to each of the others [peace *between* nations] —*adv.* in an intermediate space, time, etc. —**between ourselves** as a secret: also **between you and me**

be·twixt (bē twīkst', bi-) *prep.*, *adv.* [*<* *OE* *be*, by + *twegen*, twain] between: archaic except in **betwixt** and **between**, in an intermediate position

BeV or **bev** (bev) *abbrev.* one billion (10⁹) electron-volts

bev·el (bev'al) *n.* [*<* ?] 1 a tool for measuring or marking angles, etc. 2 an angle other than a right angle 3 sloping part or surface —*adj.* beveled —*vt.* -eled or -elled, -el'ing or -el'ing to cut to an angle other than a right angle —*vi.* to slope at an angle; slant

bevel gear a gearwheel meshed with another at an angle

bev·er·age (bev'ər ij', bev'rij) *n.* [*<* L *bibere*, to drink] any liquid for drinking, esp. one other than water

bev·y (bev'ē) *n.*, *pl.* -ies [*ME* *bevey*] 1 a group, esp. of girls or women 2 a flock: now used chiefly of quail

be·wail (bē wāl', bi-) *vt.* to wail over; lament; mourn

be·ware (bē wer', bi-) *vi.*, *vt.* -warded', -war'ing [*prob.* *<* *OE* *bewarian*, keep watch] to be wary or careful (of)

be·wiggd (bē wīgd', bi-) *adj.* wearing a wig

be·wil·der (bē wil'dər, bi-) *vt.* [*ult.* *<* *OE* *wilde*, wild] to confuse hopelessly; puzzle —**be·wil'der·ing·ly** *adv.* —**be·wil'der·ment** *n.*

be·witch (bē wīch', bi-) *vt.* [*<* *OE* *wicca*, sorcerer] 1 to cast a spell over 2 to attract and delight greatly —**be·witch'ing** *adj.*

bey (bā) *n.* [Turk] a Turkish title of respect and former title of rank

be-yond (bē änd') *prep.* [< OE *be*, *by* + *geond*, *yonder*] 1 farther on than; past 2 later than 3 outside the reach of [*beyond* help] 4 more than —*adv.* farther away —*the* (great) *beyond* whatever follows death

bez-el (bez'al) *n.* [< ?] 1 a sloping surface, as the cutting edge of a chisel 2 the slanting faces of the upper part of a cut gem 3 the groove and flange holding a gem, watch crystal, etc. in place

Bhu-tan (bōō tăn') kingdom in the Himalayas, SC Asia: 18,000 sq. mi.; pop. 600,000

Bi *Chem. symbol for bismuth*

bi- [L] *prefix* 1 having two 2 doubly 3 happening every two (specified periods) 4 happening twice during every (specified period) 5 using two or both 6 joining or involving two

bi-an-nu-al (bī an'yōō əl) *adj.* coming twice a year; semiannual —**bi-an'nu-al-ly** *adv.*

bi-as (bī'əs) *n., pl. -as-es* [MFr *biais*, a slant] 1 a slanting or diagonal line, cut or sewn in cloth 2 partiality; prejudice —*adj.* slanting; diagonal —*adv.* diagonally —*vt.* -ased or -assed, -as-ing or -as-sing to prejudice —*on the bias* diagonally

bi-ath-lon (bī ath'län') *n.* [BI- + Gr *athlon*, contest] a winter sports event combining cross-country skiing and rifle marksmanship

bib (bib) *n.* [< L *bibere*, to drink] 1 a cloth or plastic cover tied under a child's chin at meals 2 the upper front part of an apron

Bib *abbrev.* 1 Bible 2 Biblical

bibb lettuce (bib) [after J. Bibb (1789-1884), who developed it] a type of lettuce with loose heads of crisp, dark-green leaves

Bi-ble (bī'bəl) *n.* [< Gr *biblos*, papyrus < *Byblos*, Phoenician city that exported papyrus] 1 the sacred book of Christianity; Old Testament and New Testament 2 the Holy Scriptures of Judaism; Old Testament 3 [b-] any book regarded as authoritative or official — **bib-li-cal** or **Bib-li-cal** (bib'li kəl) *adj.*

biblio- [< Gr *biblion*, book] *combining form* book, books [*bibliophile*]

bib-li-og-ra-phy (bib'lē äg'rə fē) *n., pl. -phies* a list of writings on a given subject or by a given author, or of those used by the author of a given work — **bib'li-og'ra-pher** *n.* —**bib'li-o-graph'ic** (-ə graf'ik) *adj.*

bib'li-o-phile' (-ə fil') *n.* a person who loves or collects books

bib-u-lous (bib'yōō ləs) *adj.* [< L *bibere*, to drink] addicted to or fond of alcoholic beverages

bi-cam-er-al (bī kam'ər əl) *adj.* [< BI- + L *camera*, chamber] having two legislative chambers

bi-car-bon-ate of soda (bī kār'bən it) SODIUM BICARBONATE

bi-cen-ten-ni-al (bī'sen ten'ē əl) *adj.* happening once in every 200 years —*n.*

a 200th anniversary

bi-ceps (bī'seps') *n., pl. -ceps or -ceps'es* [< L < *bis*, two + *caput*, head] a muscle with two points of origin; esp., the large muscle in the front of the upper arm

bick-er (bik'ər) *vi.* [ME *bikeren*] to squabble; quarrel —**bick'er-er** *n.*

bi-con-cave (bī kăn'kāv') *adj.* concave on both surfaces [*a biconcave lens*]

bi-con'vex' (-veks') *adj.* convex on both surfaces [*a biconvex lens*]

bi-cus-pid (bī kus'pid) *adj.* [< BI- + L *cuspis*, pointed end] having two points —*n.* any of eight adult teeth with two-pointed crowns

bi-cy-cle (bī'sik'əl, -si kəl) *n.* [Fr: see BI- & CYCLE] a vehicle consisting of a metal frame on two large wheels, with handlebars, foot pedals, and a seat —*vi.* -cled, -cling to ride or travel on a bicycle —*vt.* 1 to carry on or as on a bicycle 2 to travel over by bicycle —**bi'cy'clist** *n.*

bid (bid) *vt.* bade or bid, bid'den or bid, bid'ding [< OE *biddan*, to urge & *beodan*, to command] 1 to command, ask, or tell 2 to state (an amount) as the price one will pay or accept 3 to express [*to bid* farewell] 4 *Card Games* to state (a number of tricks) and declare (trump) —*vi.* to make a bid —*n.* 1 a bidding 2 an amount bid 3 a chance to bid 4 an attempt or try (*for*) 5 [Inf.] an invitation —**bid fair** to seem likely — **bid'der** *n.*

bid-dy (bid'ē) *n., pl. -dies* [< ?] 1 a hen 2 [Inf.] an elderly woman regarded as annoying, gossipy, etc.: usually old biddy

bide (bīd) *vi.* bode or bid'ed, bid'ed, bid'ing [OE *bidan*] [Now Chiefly Dial.] 1 to stay; continue 2 to dwell 3 to wait —*vt.* [Now Chiefly Dial.] to endure or tolerate —**bide one's time** to wait patiently for an opportunity [*she bided her time*]

bi-det (bē dā') *n.* [Fr] a low, bowl-shaped bathroom fixture, with running water, for bathing the crotch

bi-en-ni-al (bī en'ē əl) *adj.* [< L *bi-*, BI- + *annus*, year] 1 happening every two years 2 lasting for two years —*n.* 1 a biennial event 2 *Bot.* a plant that lasts two years —**bi-en'ni-al-ly** *adv.*

bier (bir) *n.* [OE *bær*] a portable framework on which a coffin is placed

bi-fo-cals (bī'fō'kəlz) *pl.n.* eyeglasses with lenses having one part ground for close focus and the other for distant focus

bi-fur-cate (bī'fər kāt') *vt., vi.* -cat'ed, -cat'ing [< L *bi-*, BI- + *furca*, a fork] to divide into two parts or branches — **bi'fur-ca'tion** *n.*

big (big) *adj.* big'ger, big'gest [ME] 1 of great size; large 2 great in amount or force 3 full-grown 4 elder [*his big sister*] 5 noticeably pregnant (*with*) 6 loud 7 important [*big plans*] 8 famous 9 extravagant [*big talk*] 10 noble [*a big heart*] —*adv.* [Inf.] 1 boastfully 2 impressively —**big'ness** *n.*

big-a-my (big'ə mē) *n.* [< L *bi-*, BI- + Gr *gamos*, marriage] the crime of marrying a second time when one is already legally married —**big'a-mist** *n.* —**big'a-**

- mous** *adj.* — **big'a-mous-ly** *adv.*
- big'-bang' theory** a theory that the expansion of the universe began with a gigantic explosion (**big bang**) between 12 and 20 billion years ago
- Big Dipper, the** a dipper-shaped group of bright stars in the northern sky
- big game** 1 large wild animals hunted for sport, as lions, tigers, moose, etc. 2 the object of any important or dangerous undertaking
- big'heart'ed** (-här'tid) *adj.* quick to give or forgive; generous — **big'heart'ed-ly** *adv.*
- big'horn' n., pl. -horns' or -horn'** a Rocky Mountain wild sheep with large horns
- bight** (bit) *n.* [OE *byht*, a bend] 1 a slack part in a rope 2 a curve in a coastline 3 a bay formed by such a curve
- big'mouth' n.** [Slang] a person who talks too much, esp. in an opinionated way
- big-ot** (big'at) *n.* [Fr < ?] 1 one who holds blindly and intolerantly to a particular creed, opinion, etc. 2 a prejudiced person — **big'ot-ed** *adj.* — **big'ot-ry** *n.*
- big shot** [Slang] an important or influential person: also **big wheel**
- big'-time' adj.; adv.** [Slang] at, of, or to a very great degree, extent, etc.
- bike** (bik) *n.* [Inf.] 1 a bicycle 2 a motorcycle — **bik'er** *n.*
- bi-ki-ni** (bi kē'nē) *n.* [Fr after *Bikini*, Pacific atoll] 1 a very brief two-piece swimsuit for women 2 very brief, legless underpants or swimming trunks
- bi-lat'er-al** (bī lat'ər əl) *adj.* 1 of, having, or involving two sides, factions, etc. 2 affecting both sides equally; reciprocal [a *bilateral* pact] — **bi-lat'er-al-ly** *adv.*
- bile** (bil) *n.* [Fr < L *bilis*] 1 the bitter, greenish fluid secreted by the liver: it aids digestion 2 bad temper; anger
- bilge** (bilj) *n.* [var. of BULGE] 1 the rounded lower part of a ship's hold 2 stagnant water that collects there: also **bilge water** 3 [Slang] nonsense
- bi-lin-gual** (bī lin'gwəl) *adj.* [< L *bi-*, BI- + *lingua*, tongue] of, in, or able to use two languages — **bi-lin'gual-ism' n.**
- bil-ious** (bil'yəs) *adj.* [< L *bilis*, bile] 1 having or appearing to have some ailment of the bile or liver 2 bad-tempered
- bilk** (bilk) *vt.* [? < BALK] to cheat or swindle; defraud — **bilk'er** *n.*
- bill¹** (bil) *n.* [< ML *bullā*, sealed document] 1 a statement of charges for goods or services; invoice 2 a list, as a menu or theater program 3 a poster or handbill 4 a draft of a proposed law 5 a bill of exchange 6 a piece of paper money 7 *Law* a written declaration of charges or complaints filed — *vt.* 1 to make out a bill of (items) 2 to present a statement of charges to 3 *a*) to advertise by bills *b*) to book (a performer) — **fill the bill** [Inf.] to meet the requirements — **bill'a-ble** *adj.*
- bill²** (bil) *n.* [OE *bile*] 1 the projecting
- jaws of a bird, usually pointed; beak 2 a beaklike part of the mouth, as that of a turtle — *vi.* to touch bills together — **bill and coo** to kiss, talk softly, etc. in a loving way
- bill'board' n.** a signboard, usually outdoors, for advertising posters
- bil-let** (bil'it) *n.* [see BILL¹] 1 *a*) a written order to provide lodging for military personnel *b*) the lodging 2 a position, job, or situation — *vt.* to assign to lodging by billet
- bil-let-doux** (bē'yā dōō') *n., pl. bil-lets-doux* (bē'yā dōō') [Fr, sweet letter] a love letter
- bill-fold** (bil'föld') *n.* a wallet
- bil-liard** (bil'yərd) *adj.* of or for billiards
- bil'liards** (-yərdz) *n.* [< Fr *billard*, orig., a cue] a game played with a cue and three hard balls on a table with raised, cushioned edges
- bill-ing** (bil'in) *n.* 1 the listing of actors' names on a theater marquee, etc. 2 the order in which the names are listed
- bil-lings-gate** (bil'inz gāt') *n.* [after a London fish market] foul, vulgar, abusive talk
- bil-lion** (bil'yən) *n.* [Fr < *bi-*, two + (*mi*)llion] 1 a thousand millions (1,000,000,000) 2 *former Brit. term for TRILLION* (a million millions) — **bil'lionth** *adj., n.*
- bil'lion-aire'** (-yə ner') *n.* a person whose wealth comes to at least a billion dollars, pounds, francs, etc.
- bill of exchange** a written order to pay a certain sum of money to the person named
- bill of fare** a menu
- bill of lading** a receipt issued to a shipper by a carrier, describing the goods to be shipped
- Bill of Rights** the first ten amendments to the U.S. Constitution, which guarantee civil liberties
- bill of sale** a written statement transferring ownership of something by sale
- bil-low** (bil'ō) *n.* [ON *bylgja*] 1 a large wave 2 any large swelling mass or surge, as of smoke — *vi.* to surge or swell in a billow — **bil'low-y, -i-er, -i-est, adj.**
- bil-ly** (bil'ē) *n., pl. -lies* [ult. < OFr *bille*, tree trunk] a club, esp. a policeman's heavy stick: in full **billy club**
- billy goat** a male goat
- Bi-lox-i** (bə luk'sē, -lāk'sē) city in SE Mississippi, on the Gulf of Mexico: pop. 46,000
- bi-me-tal-lic** (bī mətə tal'ik) *adj.* [< Fr *bi-*, BI- + *métallique*, metallic] 1 of, containing, or using two metals 2 of or based on bimetallism
- bi-met-al-lism** (bī met'əl izəm) *n.* the use of two metals, esp. gold and silver, as the monetary standard, with fixed values in relation to each other
- bi-month-ly** (bī munth'lē) *adj., adv.* 1 once every two months 2 [Now Rare] twice a month
- bin** (bin) *n.* [OE, crib] a box or enclosed space used for storage

bi·na·ry (bī'nə rē) *adj.* [*< L bis, double*] 1 made up of two parts; double 2 designating or of a number system in which the base used is two, each number being expressed by using only two digits, specif. 0 and 1 —*n., pl. -ries* something with two parts

bi·na·tion·al (bī nash'ə nəl) *adj.* involving two nations or two nationalities

bin·au·ral (bī nôr'əl) *adj.* 1 of or involving both ears 2 of or using two sources of sound

bind (bīnd) *vt.* bound, bind'ing [*< OE bindan*] 1 to tie together, as with rope 2 to hold or restrain 3 to encircle with a belt, etc. 4 to bandage: often with *up* 5 to constipate 6 to reinforce or ornament the edges of by a band, as of tape 7 to fasten together the pages of (a book) and enclose in a cover 8 to obligate by duty, love, etc. 9 to compel, as by oath, legal restraint, or contract —*vi.* 1 to do the act of binding 2 to be or become tight or stiff 3 to stick together 4 to be obligatory or binding in force —*n.* 1 anything that binds 2 [Inf.] a difficult or restrictive situation

bind'er *n.* 1 one that binds 2 a substance that binds, as tar 3 a cover for holding sheets of paper together

bind'er·y *n., pl. -er·ies* a place where books are bound

bind'ing *n.* a thing that binds, as a band, a tape, the covers and backing of a book, or a cohesive substance —*adj.* that binds, obligates, etc.

binge (binj) [Inf.] *n.* unrestrained activity; spree —*vi.* binged, binge'ing to indulge without restraint

bin·go (bin'gō) *n.* a game played with cards having rows of numbered squares: the first player with an entire row drawn by lot wins —*interj.* used to signify sudden success, etc.

bin·na·cle (bin'ə kəl) *n.* [ult. *< L habitaculum, dwelling place*] the case holding a ship's compass

bin·oc·u·lar (bī nāk'yə lər; *for n., bi-*) *adj.* [*< L bini, double + oculus, eye*] using, or for, both eyes —*n. [pl.]* field glasses

bi·no·mi·al (bī nō'mē əl) *n.* [*< L bi-, BI- + Gr nomos, law*] 1 *Math.* an expression consisting of two terms connected by a plus or minus sign 2 a two-word scientific name of a plant or animal, indicating the genus and species

bi·o (bī'ō) *n., pl. bios* [Inf.] a biography

bio- [Gr *< bios, life*] combining form life, of living things

bi·o·chem·is·try (bī'ō kem'is trē) *n.* the study of the chemistry of life processes in plants and animals —**bi'o·chem'ist** *n.*

bi·o·cide (bī'ō sīd') *n.* [BIO- + -CIDE] a substance that kills microorganisms

bi·o·de·grad·a·ble (bī'ō di grā'də bəl) *adj.* [BIO- + *degrad(e)*, decompose + -ABLE] capable of being readily decomposed by the action of microbes, as some detergents

bi'o·di·ver'si·ty *n.* variety in the living things of a particular area

bi'o·feed'back' *n.* a technique of seek-

ing to control certain emotional states by training oneself, using electronic devices, to modify autonomic body functions, such as heartbeat

biog *abbrev.* 1 biographical 2 biography

bi·og·ra·phy (bī äg'rə fē) *n., pl. -phies* [*< Gr: see BIO- & -GRAPHY*] a person's life story written by another —**bi·og'ra·pher** *n.* —**bi·o·graph·i·cal** (bī'ə graf'i kəl) *adj.*

biol *abbrev.* 1 biological 2 biology

biological warfare the use of toxic microorganisms, etc. in war

bi·ol·o·gy (bī ä'l'ə jē) *n.* [see BIO- & -LOGY] the science that deals with the origin, history, characteristics, etc. of plants and animals —**bi·o·log·i·cal** (bī'ə lāj'i kəl) *adj.* —**bi'o·log'i·cal·ly** *adv.* —**bi·ol'o·gist** *n.*

bi·on·ic (bī än'ik) *adj.* [see fol.] 1 of bionics 2 having an artificial body part or parts, as in science fiction, so as to enhance strength, etc.

bi·on'ics *n.* [BI(O)- + (ELECTR)ONICS] the science of designing instruments or systems modeled after living organisms

bi·o·phys·ics (bī'ō fiz'iks) *n.* the study of biological phenomena in relation to physics —**bi'o·phys'i·cal** *adj.* —**bi'o·phys'i·cist** *n.*

bi·o·pic (bī'ō pik') *n.* [Inf.] a film dramatizing the life of a famous person

bi·op·sy (bī'äp'sē) *n., pl. -sies* [*< BI(O)- + Gr opsis, a sight*] *Med.* the removal of bits of living tissue for diagnosis

bi·o·rhythm (bī'ō rith'am) *n.* any biological cycle that involves periodic changes in blood pressure, body temperature, etc.

bi·o·tin (bī'ə tin) *n.* [*< Gr bios, life*] a factor of the vitamin B group

bi·par·ti·san (bī pär'tə zən) *adj.* of, representing, or supported by two parties —**bi·par'ti·san·ship'** *n.*

bi·par·tite (bī pär'tīt') *adj.* [*< L bi-, BI- + partire, to divide*] 1 having two parts 2 involving two

bi·ped (bī'ped') *n.* [*< L bi-, BI- + pes, foot*] any two-footed animal —**bi·ped'al** *adj.*

bi·plane (bī'plān') *n.* an airplane with two sets of wings, one above the other

bi·po·lar (bī pō'lər) *adj.* 1 of or involving poles or polarity 2 having alternating periods of mania and mental depression

bi·ra·cial (bī rā'shəl) *adj.* consisting of or involving two races

birch (burch) *n.* [OE *beorc*] 1 a tree having smooth bark in thin layers, and hard, closegrained wood 2 its wood 3 a bunch of birch twigs used for whipping —*vt.* to flog

bird (būrd) *n.* [*< OE bridd, young bird*] a warmblooded vertebrate with feathers and wings —*vi.* to observe wild birds in their habitat —**birds of a feather** people with the same traits or tastes —**for the birds** [Slang] ridiculous, foolish, etc.

bird'er *n.* a bird-watcher

bird'ie *n.* *Golf* a score of one stroke under par for a hole

bird'ing *n.* bird-watching

bird's'-eye' *adj.* having marks resembling birds' eyes [*bird's-eye* maple]

bird's-eye view 1 a view from high above 2 an overall, but cursory, view

bird'-watch'ing *n.* a hobby involving observation of wild birds in their habitat —**bird'-watch'er** *n.*

bi-ret-ta (bə ret'ə) *n.* [birrettum, small cloak] a square ceremonial hat with three or four vertical projections, worn by Roman Catholic clergy

Bir-ming-ham (bər'mɪŋ əm; for 2, -ham') 1 city in central England: county district pop. 961,000 2 city in N Alabama: pop. 265,000

birth (bərth) *n.* [byrth] 1 the act of bringing forth offspring 2 a being born 3 origin or descent 4 the beginning of anything —*vi.*, *vt.* to give birth (to) —**give birth** (to) 1 to bring forth (offspring) 2 to create

birth'day' *n.* the anniversary of the day of a person's birth

birth'ing *adj.*, *n.* (of or for) giving birth

birth'mark' *n.* a skin blemish or mark present at birth

birth'place' *n.* the place of one's birth or of a thing's origin

birth'rate' *n.* the number of births per year per thousand people in a given area, group, etc.: also **birth rate**

birth'right' *n.* any right that a person has by birth

birth'stone' *n.* a gem symbolizing the month of a person's birth

bis-cot-ti (bi skät'ē) *pl.n.*, *sing.* -to or -ti [*It*, cognate with *fol.*] hard, bar-shaped cookie made with almonds, etc.

bis-cuit (bis'kit) *n.*, *pl.* -cuits or -cuit [bis, twice + *coquere*, to cook] 1 [*Chiefly Brit.*] a cracker or cookie 2 *a*) a quick bread baked in small pieces *b*) any of these pieces

bi-sect (bi sekt') *vt.* [bi-, *BI-* + *secare*, to cut] 1 to cut in two 2 *Geom.* to divide into two equal parts —*vi.* to divide; fork —**bi-sec'tor** (-sekt'ər) *n.*

bi-sex-u-al (bi sek'shō əl) *adj.* of, or sexually attracted to, both sexes —*n.* one who is bisexual

bish-op (bish'əp) *n.* [episkopos, overseer] 1 a high-ranking member of the Christian clergy, governing a diocese or church district 2 a chess piece that can move in a diagonal direction only

bish-op-ric (bish'əp rik) *n.* the district, office, or rank of a bishop

Bis-marck¹ (biz'märk'), Prince **Ot-to von** (ät'ō vān) 1815-98; Prussian chancellor (1871-90) who unified Germany

Bis-marck² (biz'märk') capital of North Dakota: pop. 49,000

bis-muth (biz'məth) *n.* [wismut] a brittle, grayish-white metallic chemical element used in alloys of low melting point

bi-son (bi'sən) *n.*, *pl.* bi'son [

bisque (bisk) *n.* [*Fr*] a thick, creamy soup made as from shellfish or vegeta-

bles

bis-tro (bē'strō) *n.* [*Fr*] a small cafe

bit¹ (bit) *n.* [bite, a bite] 1 the part of a bridle in the horse's mouth, used as a control 2 anything that curbs or controls 3 a drilling or boring tool for use in a brace, drill press, etc.

bit² (bit) *n.* [bita, a piece] 1 *a*) a small piece or quantity *b*) small extent [*a bit* bored] *c*) a short time 2 [*Inf.*] 12½ cents: now usually in *two bits* —*adj.* very small [*a bit* role] —**bit by bit** gradually —**do one's bit** to do one's share

bit³ (bit) *n.* [*b(inary)* (*dig*)it] 1 a single digit in a binary number system 2 a unit of information

bitch (bich) *n.* [*OE bicce*] 1 the female of the dog, fox, etc. 2 a woman regarded as bad-tempered, malicious, etc. 3 [*Slang*] anything especially difficult —*vi.* [*Slang*] to complain

bitch'y *adj.* -i-er, -i-est [*Slang*] bad-tempered or malicious: used esp. of a woman

bite (bit) *vt.* **bit** (bit), **bit-ten** (bit'n) or **bit**, **bit'ing** [*OE bītan*] 1 to seize or pierce with or as with the teeth 2 to cut into, as with a sharp weapon 3 to sting, as an insect 4 to cause to smart 5 to eat into; corrode —*vi.* 1 to press or snap the teeth (*into*, *at*, etc.) 2 to cause a biting sensation 3 to grip 4 to seize a bait 5 to be caught, as by a trick —*n.* 1 a biting 2 biting quality; sting 3 a wound or sting from biting 4 *a*) a mouthful *b*) a snack 5 [*Inf.*] a sum deducted, as by a tax —**bite the bullet** to confront a painful situation bravely: from the patient's biting a bullet during battlefield surgery without an anesthetic

bit-ing (bit'in) *adj.* 1 cutting; sharp 2 sarcastic —**bit'ing-ly** *adv.*

bit-ter (bit'ər) *adj.* [*OE biter*, akin to *bītan*, to bite] 1 having a sharp, often unpleasant taste 2 causing or showing sorrow, pain, etc. 3 sharp and disagreeable; harsh [*a bitter* wind] 4 resentful or cynical —**bit'ter-ly** *adv.* —**bit'ter-ness** *n.*

bit-tern (bit'ərn) *n.* [OFr *butor*] a wading bird with a thumping cry

bit'ters *pl.n.* a liquor containing bitter herbs, etc. and usually alcohol, used as in some cocktails

bit'ter-sweet' *n.* 1 a woody vine bearing small orange fruits with bright-red fleshy seeds 2 a poisonous vine with purple flowers and red berries 3 pleasure mixed with sadness —*adj.* 1 both bitter and sweet 2 pleasant and sad

bi-tu-men (bi tōō'mən) *n.* [*L* < *Celt*] any of various black mixtures of hydrocarbons obtained in the distillation of petroleum, used for paints, roofing, etc. —**bi-tu'mi-nous** (-mə nəŋ) *adj.*

bituminous coal coal that yields pitch or tar when it burns; soft coal

bi-val-ent (bi vā'lənt) *adj.* *Chem.* **DIVA-LENT**

bi-valve (bi'valv') *n.* any mollusk having a shell made of two valves hinged

together, as a clam

biv-ou-ac (biv'wak') *n.* [Fr < OHG *bi-*, by + *wahta*, watchman] a temporary encampment (esp. of soldiers) in the open —*vi.* -acked', -ack'ing to encamp in the open

bi-week-ly (bī wēk'lē) *adj.*, *adv.* 1 once every two weeks 2 [Now Rare] semi-weekly

bi-zarre (bi zār') *adj.* [Fr < Basque *bizar*, beard] 1 odd; grotesque 2 unexpected; fantastic

bk *abbrev.* 1 bank 2 book

bl *abbrev.* 1 bale(s) 2 barrel(s)

B/L or **b/l** *abbrev.* bill of lading

blab (blab) *vt.*, *vi.* blabbed, blab'bing [ME *blabben*] 1 to reveal (a secret) 2 to chatter; prattle Also blab'ber —*n.* gossip

blab'ber-mouth' *n.* [Inf.] one who blabs

black (blak) *adj.* [OE *blæc*] 1 opposite to white; of the color of coal 2 [sometimes B-] of or for the dark-skinned peoples of Africa, etc. or their descendants elsewhere, specif. African-Americans in the U.S. [*black studies*] 3 without light; dark 4 dirty 5 evil; wicked 6 sad; dismal 7 sullen —*n.* 1 black color or pigment 2 black clothes, esp. when worn in mourning 3 [sometimes B-] a member of a black people 4 darkness —*vt.*, *vi.* to blacken —**black out** to lose consciousness —**in the black** operating at a profit —**black'ish** *adj.* —**black'ly** *adv.* —**black'ness** *n.*

black'-and-blue' *adj.* discolored, as by a bruise

black'ball' *n.* a vote against —*vt.* 1 to vote against 2 to ostracize

black belt a black belt or sash awarded to an expert of the highest skill in judo or karate

black'ber'ry (-ber'ē, -bər ē) *n.*, *pl.* -ries 1 the fleshy, purple or black, edible fruit of various brambles of the rose family 2 a bush or vine bearing this fruit

black'bird' *n.* any of various birds the male of which is almost entirely black

black'board' *n.* a smooth, usually dark surface on which to write with chalk

black'en (-ən) *vi.* to become black or dark —*vt.* 1 to make black; darken 2 to slander; defame

black eye 1 a discoloration of the skin around an eye, resulting from a blow or contusion 2 [Inf.] dishonor, or its cause

black'-eyed' Su'san (-sōō'zən) a yellow, daisylike wildflower with a dark center

black-guard (blag'ərd) *n.* a scoundrel; villain

black'head' *n.* a dark plug of dried fatty matter in a pore of the skin

black hole 1 an object or region in space with intense gravitation from which light, etc. cannot escape 2 *a*) an emptiness or void *b*) anything endlessly devouring resources, etc.

black'jack' *n.* 1 a small, leather-covered bludgeon with a flexible handle 2 a gambling card game in which a player getting closer to 21 points than

the dealer, without exceeding it, wins —*vt.* to hit with a blackjack

black light ultraviolet or infrared radiation used for fluorescent effects

black'list' *n.* a list of those who are censured, refused employment, etc. —*vt.* to put on a blacklist

black lung (disease) a disease of the lungs caused by the inhalation of coal dust

black magic sorcery

black'mail' *n.* [lit., black rent < ME *male*, rent] 1 payment extorted to prevent disclosure of information that could bring disgrace 2 extortion of such payment —*vt.* to get or try to get blackmail from —**black'mail'er** *n.*

black mark an unfavorable item in one's record

black market a system for selling goods illegally —**black marketeer** (or **marketer**)

black'out' *n.* 1 an extinguishing of stage lights to end a scene 2 a concealing of lights that might be visible to enemy aircraft at night 3 a temporary loss of electric power 4 temporary unconsciousness 5 suppression, as of news by censorship

black power political and economic power as sought by black Americans in the struggle for civil rights

Black Sea sea between Asia & SE Europe, north of Turkey

black sheep a family or group member regarded as not so respectable as the others

black'smith' *n.* a smith who works in iron and makes and fits horseshoes

black'thorn' *n.* a thorny shrub with purple or black, plumlike fruit; sloe

black'top' *n.* a bituminous mixture, usually asphalt, used as a surface for roads, etc. —*vt.* -topped', -top'ping to cover with blacktop

black widow a black spider with a red mark underneath: the female has a poisonous bite and sometimes eats its mate

blad-der (blad'ər) *n.* [OE *blæddre*] 1 a sac that fills with fluid or gas, esp. one that holds urine flowing from the kidneys 2 a thing like this

blade (blād) *n.* [OE *blæd*, leaf] 1 *a*) the leaf of a plant, esp. of grass *b*) the flat part of a leaf 2 a broad, flat surface or part, as of an oar or snowplow 3 the cutting part of a tool, knife, etc. 4 a sword or swordsman

Blair (bler), **To-ny** (tō'nē) 1953- ; Brit. prime minister (1997-)

blam-a-ble or **blame-a-ble** (blām'ə bəl) *adj.* that deserves blame —**blam'a-bly** *adv.*

blame (blām) *vt.* blamed, blam'ing [see BLASPHEME] 1 to accuse of being at fault; condemn (*for*) 2 to put the responsibility of (an error, etc.) on —*n.* 1 a blaming 2 responsibility for a fault —**be to blame** to be at fault —**blame'less** *adj.* —**blame'less-ly** *adv.* —**blame'less-ness** *n.*

blame'wor'thy *adj.* deserving to be blamed

blanch (blanch) *vt.* [*< OFr blanc, white*] 1 to whiten or bleach 2 to make pale 3 to scald (vegetables, almonds, etc.) —*vi.* to turn pale

bland (bland) *adj.* [*L blandus, mild*] 1 gently agreeable 2 mild; not harsh 3 insipid —**bland'ly** *adv.* —**bland'ness** *n.*

blan·dish (blan'dish) *vt., vi.* [*< L blandiri, to flatter*] to flatter; coax; cajole —**blan'dish-ment** *n.*

blank (blank) *adj.* [*< OFr blanc, white*] 1 not written on 2 empty; vacant; plain 3 dazed or vacant [a blank look] 4 utter; complete [a blank denial] —*n.* 1 an empty space, esp. one to be filled out in a printed form 2 such a printed form 3 an empty place or time 4 a powder-filled cartridge without a bullet —*vt.* to hold (an opponent) scoreless —**blank out** to conceal by covering over —**draw a blank** [*Inf.*] 1 to be unsuccessful 2 to be unable to remember a particular thing —**blank'ly** *adv.* —**blank'ness** *n.*

blank check 1 a bank check not yet filled in 2 a signed check with no amount filled in 3 permission to use an unlimited amount of money, authority, etc.

blan·ket (blank'it) *n.* [*< OFr dim. of blanc, white*] 1 a large piece of cloth used for warmth, esp. as a bed cover 2 any covering like this [a blanket of leaves] —*adj.* including many or all items [blanket insurance] —*vt.* 1 to cover; overlie 2 to obscure

blank verse unrhymed verse having five iambic feet per line

blan·quette (blän ket') *n.* [*Fr*] a stew, as of chicken or veal, in cream sauce

blare (bler) *vt., vi.* **blared, blar'ing** [*ME bleren, to wail*] to sound or exclaim loudly —*n.* a loud, harsh sound

blar·ney (blär'nē) *n.* [*< Blarney stone in Ireland, traditionally kissed to gain skill in flattery*] smooth or flattering talk

bla·sé (blā zā') *adj.* [*Fr*] unexcited or jaded

blas·pHEME (blas fēm') *vt.* -phemed', -phem'ing [*< Gr blasphemēin, to speak evil of*] 1 to speak profanely of or to (God or sacred things) 2 to curse —*vi.* to utter blasphemy —**blas·phem'er** *n.*

blas'phe·my (-fə mē) *n., pl.* -mies profane speech, writing, or action concerning God or sacred things —**blas'phe·mous** *adj.*

blast (blast) *n.* [*OE blæst, puff of wind*] 1 a strong rush of air or gas 2 the sound of a sudden rush of air, as through a horn 3 a blight 4 an explosion, as of dynamite 5 an outburst, as of criticism 6 [*Slang*] an exciting, enjoyable experience —*vi.* 1 to make a loud, harsh sound 2 to set off explosives, etc. —*vt.* 1 to wither; ruin 2 to blow up; explode 3 to criticize sharply —**blast off** to take off: said of a rocket, etc. —(at) full blast at full speed or capacity

blast furnace a smelting furnace in which a blast of air forced in from below produces the intense heat

blast'off or **blast'-off** *n.* the launching of a rocket, spacecraft, etc.

bla·tant (blāt'nt) *adj.* [*prob. < L blaterare, to babble*] 1 disagreeably loud; noisy 2 boldly conspicuous or obtrusive —**bla'tan·cy** *n.*

blaze¹ (blāz) *n.* [*OE blæse*] 1 a bright burst of flame; fire 2 a very bright light 3 a spectacular outburst or display —*vi.* **blazed, blaz'ing** 1 to burn rapidly or shine brightly 2 to be excited, as with anger

blaze² (blāz) *n.* [*< ON blesi*] 1 a light-colored spot on an animal's face 2 a mark made on a tree by cutting off bark —*vt.* **blazed, blaz'ing** to mark (a tree or trail) with blazes

blaze³ (blāz) *vt.* **blazed, blaz'ing** [*ME blasen, to blow < OE or ON*] to proclaim

blaz·er (blā'zər) *n.* a light sport coat usually in a solid color and with metal buttons

bla·zon (blā'zən) *n.* [*OFr blason, a shield*] a coat of arms —*vt.* 1 to proclaim 2 to adorn

bldg *abbrev.* building

bleach (blēch) *vt., vi.* [*OE blæcan*] to make or become white or colorless —*n.* a substance for bleaching

bleach'ers *pl.n.* benches in tiers, for spectators as at sporting events

bleak (blēk) *adj.* [*ON bleikr, pale*] 1 exposed to wind and cold; bare 2 cold; harsh 3 gloomy 4 not hopeful —**bleak'ly** *adv.* —**bleak'ness** *n.*

blear·y (blir'ē) *adj.* -i-er, -i-est [*< ME blere*] dim or blurred, as the eyes by tears, fatigue, etc.: also **blear**

bleat (blēt) *vi.* [*OE blætan*] to make the cry of a sheep, goat, or calf —*n.* a bleating cry or sound

bleed (blēd) *vi.* **bled** (bled), **bleed'ing** [*< OE blod, blood*] 1 to emit or lose blood 2 to feel pain, grief, or sympathy 3 to ooze sap, juice, etc. 4 to show through or run together: said of dyes, stains, etc. —*vt.* 1 to draw blood from 2 to ooze (sap, juice, etc.) 3 to draw off (liquid, etc.) slowly —**bleed'er** *n.*

bleep (blēp) *n., vi.* [*echoic*] beep —*vt.* to censor (something said) in a telecast, etc., as with a beep

blem·ish (blem'ish) *vt.* [*< OFr blesmir, injure*] to mar; spoil —*n.* a flaw, defect, etc., as a spot or scar

blench (blench) *vt., vi.* to blanch

blend (blēnd) *vt.* **blend'ed** or **blent, blend'ing** [*OE blendan*] 1 to mix or mingle (varieties of tea, etc.) 2 to mix thoroughly —*vi.* 1 to mix or merge 2 to pass gradually into each other, as colors 3 to harmonize —*n.* 1 a blending 2 a mixture of varieties

blend'er *n.* an electrical appliance that can chop, whip, mix, or liquefy foods

bless (bles) *vt.* **blessed** or **blest, bless'ing** [*< OE bletsian, consecrate with blood*] 1 to make holy 2 to ask divine favor for 3 to endow (*with*) 4 to make happy 5 to glorify 6 to make the sign of the cross over

bless·ed (bles'id, blest) *adj.* 1 holy; sacred 2 blissful 3 beatified 4 bringing comfort or joy —**bless'ed·ly** *adv.* —**bless'ed·ness** *n.*

bless'ing *n.* 1 an invocation or benediction 2 a grace said before or after eating 3 good wishes or approval 4 anything that gives happiness

blew (blō) *vi., vt. pt. of BLOW¹ & BLOW³*

blight (blīt) *n.* [? < ON *blikja*, turn pale] 1 any insect, disease, etc. that destroys plants 2 anything that destroys, frustrates, etc. —*vt.* 1 to wither 2 to destroy

blimp (blimp) *n.* [Inf.] a nonrigid or semirigid airship

blind (blind) *adj.* [OE] 1 without the power of sight 2 of or for sightless persons 3 lacking insight 4 hard to see; hidden 5 closed at one end [a *blind* alley] 6 not controlled by intelligence [a *blind* destiny] 7 guided only by instruments [a *blind* landing] —*vt.* 1 to make sightless 2 to dazzle 3 to deprive of insight —*n.* 1 anything that obscures sight or keeps out light, as a window shade 2 a place of concealment 3 a decoy —*adv.* 1 blindly 2 guided only by instruments [to fly *blind*] —*blind'ly* *adv.* —*blind'ness* *n.*

blind date [Inf.] 1 a date with a stranger, arranged by a third person 2 either person involved

blind'ers *pl.n.* bridle flaps for preventing a horse from seeing to the side

blind'fold' *vt.* [< ME *blindfeld*, struck blind] to cover the eyes of, as with a cloth —*n.* a cloth used to cover the eyes —*adj., adv.* 1 with the eyes covered 2 reckless(ly)

blind'side' *vt.* -sid'ed, -sid'ing to attack (someone) from an unexpected direction

blink (blink) *vi.* [ME *blenken*] 1 to wink one or more times 2 to flash on and off 3 to ignore (with *at*) —*vt.* 1 to cause (eyes, light, etc.) to blink 2 to evade or avoid —*n.* 1 a blinking 2 a glimmer —*on the blink* [Slang] not working right

blink'er *n.* a flashing warning light

blintz (blints) *n.* [Yiddish *blintze* < Russ *blin*, pancake] a thin pancake rolled with a filling of cottage cheese, fruit, etc.

blip (blip) *n.* [echoic of a brief sound] a luminous image on an oscilloscope

bliss (blis) *n.* [< OE *blithe*, blithe] 1 great happiness 2 spiritual joy —*bliss'ful* *adj.* —*bliss'ful-ly* *adv.* —*bliss'ful-ness* *n.*

blis·ter (blis'tər) *n.* [< ?] 1 a raised patch of skin, filled with watery matter and caused as by a burn 2 anything like a blister —*vt.* 1 to raise blisters on 2 to lash with words —*vi.* to form blisters

blis'ter-ing *adj.* very hot, intense, etc.

blithe (blīth, blith) *adj.* [OE] cheerful; carefree; lighthearted: also *blithe'some* (-səm) —*blithe'ly* *adv.* —*blithe'ness* *n.*

blitz (blits) *n.* [< Ger *blitz*, lightning] a sudden destructive or overwhelming attack —*vt.* to subject to a blitz

bliz-zard (bliz'ərd) *n.* [? < dial. *bliz*, violent blow] a violent snowstorm with very cold winds

bloat (blōt) *vt., vi.* [< ON *blautr*, soft] 1 to swell, as with water or air 2 to puff

up, as with pride

blob (bläb) *n.* [echoic] 1 a drop or a small lump or spot 2 something of indefinite shape —*vt.* **blobbed**, **blob'bing** to splash, as with blobs

bloc (bläk) *n.* [Fr < MDu *block*, log] an alliance of persons, nations, etc.

block (bläk) *n.* [< OFr *bloc* & MDu *block*] 1 a large, solid piece of wood, stone, metal, etc. 2 a heavy stand on which chopping, etc. is done 3 an auctioneer's platform 4 an obstruction or hindrance 5 a pulley in a frame 6 [Now Brit.] a group or row of buildings 7 an area with streets or buildings on four sides 8 a number of things regarded as a unit 9 a toy brick, typically a cube of wood, etc. 10 *Printing* a piece of wood, etc. engraved with a design —*vt.* 1 to obstruct; hinder 2 to mount or mold on a block 3 to sketch roughly: often with *out* —**block'er** *n.*

block·ade (blä käd') *n.* [prec. + -ADE] 1 a shutting off of a place by troops or ships to prevent passage 2 any strategic barrier —*vt.* -ad'ed, -ad'ing to subject to a blockade

block and tackle an arrangement of pulley blocks and ropes, used for lifting heavy objects

block'bust'er *n.* a particularly effective person or thing; specif., an expensive film, etc. generating widespread appeal

block'bust'ing *n.* [Inf.] the inducing of owners to sell their homes out of fear that a minority group may move into the neighborhood

block grant a grant of federal funds to a state or local government to fund a block of programs

block'head' *n.* a stupid person

block'house' *n.* 1 [Historical] a wooden, two-story fortified building 2 a reinforced structure for observers, as of missile launchings

blond (bländ) *adj.* [OFr < ? Gmc] 1 having light-colored hair and, often, fair skin 2 light in color Also **blonde** —*n.* a blond person —**blonde** *fem.n.* —**blond'ness** *n.*

blood (blud) *n.* [OE *blod*] 1 the red fluid circulating in the arteries and veins of animals 2 bloodshed 3 the essence of life; life 4 the sap of a plant 5 passion, temperament, etc. 6 parental heritage; lineage 7 kinship 8 people, esp. youthful people [new *blood* in a group] —**bad blood** anger; hatred —**in cold blood** 1 with cruelty 2 deliberately

blood bank a supply of blood stored for future use in transfusion

blood count the number of red or white cells in a given volume of blood

blood'cur'dling (-kurd'lin) *adj.* frightening; terrifying

blood'ed *adj.* 1 having (a specified kind of) blood [hot-blooded] 2 of fine breed

blood'hound' *n.* any of a breed of large tracking dogs with a keen sense of smell

blood'less *adj.* 1 without bloodshed 2 anemic or pale 3 having little energy —**blood'less-ly** *adv.* —**blood'less-ness**

blood'line' n. line of descent

blood'mo·bile' (-mō bēl') n. a traveling unit for collecting blood from donors for blood banks

blood poisoning *nontechnical term for SEPTICEMIA*

blood pressure the pressure of the blood against the blood-vessel walls

blood relation (or relative) a person related by birth

blood'shed' n. the shedding of blood; killing

blood'shot' adj. tinged with red because small blood vessels are broken: said of eyes

blood'suck'er n. an animal that sucks blood, esp. a leech

blood'thirst'y adj. murderous; very cruel —**blood'thirst'i-ness n.**

blood vessel an artery, vein, or capillary

blood'y adj. -i-er, -i-est 1 of, like, containing, or covered with blood 2 involving bloodshed 3 bloodthirsty 4 [Brit. Slang] cursed; damned —**adv.** [Brit. Slang] very —**vt.** -ied, -y-ing to stain with blood —**blood'i-ly adv.** —**blood'i-ness n.**

bloody mar·y (mer'ē) pl. bloody mar'ys a drink made of vodka and tomato juice

bloom (blōm) n. [*< ON blomi, flowers*] 1 a flower; blossom 2 the state or time of flowering 3 a period of greatest health, vigor, etc. 4 a youthful, healthy glow 5 the powdery coating on some fruits and leaves —**vi.** 1 to blossom 2 to be in one's prime 3 to glow with health, etc.

bloom'ers pl.n. [after Amelia Bloomer (1818-94), U.S. feminist] baggy trousers gathered at the knee, once worn by women for athletics

bloom'ing adj. 1 blossoming 2 flourishing 3 [Inf.] complete [a blooming idiot]

bloop·er (blōp'ər) n. [*bloop, echoic + -ER*] 1 a stupid mistake 2 *Baseball* a fly that falls just beyond the infield for a hit

blos·som (bläs'əm) n. [*OE blōstma*] 1 a flower, esp. of a fruit-bearing plant 2 a state or time of flowering —**vi.** 1 to have or open into blossoms 2 to begin to flourish —**blos'som-y adj.**

blot (blät) n. [*ME < ?*] 1 a spot or stain, esp. of ink 2 anything that spoils or mars 3 disgrace —**vt.** blot'ted, blot'ting 1 to spot; stain 2 to disgrace 3 to erase, obscure, or get rid of: often with *out* 4 to dry, as with blotting paper —**vi.** 1 to make blots 2 to become blotted 3 to be absorbent

blotch (bläch) n. [*? < prec.*] 1 a discoloration on the skin 2 any large blot or stain —**vt.** to mark with blotches —**blotch'y, -i-er, -i-est, adj.**

blot·ter (blät'ər) n. 1 a piece of blotting paper 2 a book for recording events as they occur [a police blotter]

blotting paper a thick, soft, absorbent paper used to dry a surface freshly written on in ink

blouse (blous) n. [*Fr, workman's smock*]

1 a garment like a shirt, worn by women and girls 2 a uniform coat worn by soldiers, etc. —**vi., vt.** bloused, blous'ing to gather in and drape over loosely

blow¹ (blō) vi. blew, blown, blow'ing [*OE blawan*] 1 to move with some force, as the wind 2 to send forth air, as with the mouth 3 to pant 4 to give sound by blowing or being blown 5 to spout water and air, as whales do 6 to be carried by the wind 7 to be stormy 8 to burst suddenly: often with *out* 9 [Slang] to leave —**vt.** 1 to force air from, into, onto, or through 2 to drive or expel by blowing 3 to sound by blowing 4 to form by blown air or gas 5 to burst by an explosion: often with *up* 6 to melt (a fuse, etc.) 7 [Inf.] to spend (money) freely 8 [Slang] to leave 9 [Slang] to bungle 10 [Slang] to reveal [to blow one's cover] —**n.** 1 a blowing 2 a blast of air or a gale —**blow over** to pass over or by —**blow up** 1 to enlarge or exaggerate 2 [Inf.] to lose one's temper —**blow'er n.**

blow² (blō) n. [*ME blōwe*] 1 a hard hit, as with the fist 2 a sudden attack 3 a sudden calamity; shock —**come to blows** to begin fighting one another

blow³ (blō) vi. blew, blown, blow'ing [*OE blowan*] [Archaic] to bloom

blow'-by-blow' adj. told in great detail

blow'-dry' vt. -dried', -dry'ing to dry (wet hair) with hot air blown from an electric device (**blow'-dry'er**)

blow'fly' n., pl. -flies' a fly that lays its eggs on meat, in wounds, etc.

blow'gun' n. a long tube through which darts, etc. are blown

blow'hard' n. [Slang] a loudly boastful person

blow'out' n. 1 the bursting of a tire 2 [Slang] a party, banquet, etc.

blow'torch' n. a small torch that shoots out a hot flame

blow'up' n. 1 an explosion 2 an enlarged photograph 3 [Inf.] an angry outburst

blow'y adj. -i-er, -i-est windy

blowz·y (blou'zē) adj. -i-er, -i-est [*< obs. blouze, wench*] slovenly: also **blows'y**

BLT (bē'el'tē') n. a bacon, lettuce, and tomato sandwich

blub·ber¹ (blub'ər) n. [*ME blober, a bubble*] the fat of the whale —**blub'ber-y adj.**

blub·ber² (blub'ər) vi. [*ME bloberen, to bubble*] to weep loudly, like a child

bludg·eon (bluj'ən) n. [*? < earlier Fr bouge, club*] a short club with a heavy end —**vt., vi.** 1 to strike with a bludgeon 2 to bully or coerce

blue (blō) adj. [*< ?*] 1 of the color of the clear sky 2 livid: said of the skin 3 sad and gloomy 4 puritanical 5 [Inf.] indecent; risqué —**n.** 1 the color of the clear sky 2 any blue pigment —**out of the blue** unexpectedly —**the blue** 1 the sky 2 the sea

blue baby a baby born with bluish skin, esp. because of a heart defect

blue'bell' *n.* any of various plants with blue, bell-shaped flowers

blue'ber'ry (-ber'ē, -bər ē) *n., pl. -ries* 1 a shrub bearing small, edible, blue-black berries 2 any of the berries

blue'bird' *n.* a small North American songbird with a bluish back

blue blood an aristocrat: also **blue'blood'** *n.* —**blue'-blood'ed** *adj.*

blue cheese a strong cheese containing bluish mold

blue'-chip' *adj.* [*<* high-value *blue chips* of poker] 1 of any high-priced stock with good earnings and a stable price 2 [*Inf.*] valuable

blue'-col'lar *adj.* [*<* color of work shirts] designating or of industrial workers

blue flu [*<* *blue* police uniforms] a sick-out, esp. by police officers

blue'gill' *n.* a freshwater sunfish of a bluish color

blue'grass' *n.* 1 a type of grass with bluish-green horizontal stems 2 fast, bluesy country music

blue'jack'et *n.* an enlisted person in the navy

blue jay a common crested bird with a blue upper body and head: sometimes **blue'jay'** *n.*

blue'jeans' (-jēnz') *pl.n.* jeans made of blue denim: also **blue jeans**

blue law a puritanical law, esp. one prohibiting certain activities on Sunday

blue'nose' *n.* [*Inf.*] a puritanical person

blue'-pen'cil *vt.* -ciled or -cilled, -cil-ing or -cil-ling to edit or correct with or as with a blue pencil

blue'-plate' special an inexpensive restaurant meal served at a fixed price

blue'point' *n.* [*after Blue Point, Long Island, New York*] a small oyster, usually eaten raw

blue'print' *n.* 1 a photographic reproduction in white on a blue background, as of architectural plans 2 any detailed plan or outline —*vt.* to make a blue-print of

blues (blōz) *pl.n.* [*with sing. or pl. v.*] 1 [*Inf.*] a depressed feeling: with *the* 2 black folk music having, usually, slow tempo, melancholy words, etc.: often with *the* —**blues'y**, -i-er, -i-est, *adj.*

blue'stock'ing *n.* a learned or bookish woman

blu-et (blō'it) *n.* [*<* Fr dim. of *bleu*, blue] a small plant having little, pale-blue flowers

blue whale a baleen whale with a blue-gray back: the largest animal

bluff¹ (bluf) *vt., vi.* [*prob. <* Du *bluffen*, to brag, or *verbluffen*, to baffle] to mislead (a person) by a false, bold front —*n.* 1 a bluffing 2 one who bluffs: also **bluff'er**

bluff² (bluf) *adj.* [*? <* Du *blaf*, flat] 1 having a flat, steep front 2 having a rough, frank manner —*n.* a high, steep bank or cliff

blu-ing (blō'in) *n.* a blue rinse used on white fabrics to prevent yellowing

blu'ish (-ish) *adj.* somewhat blue: also **blue'ish**

blun·der (blun'dər) *vi.* [*<* ON *blunda*, shut the eyes] 1 to move clumsily 2 to make a foolish mistake —*n.* a foolish mistake —**blun'der·er** *n.*

blun'der·buss' (-bus') *n.* [*<* Du *donderbus*, thunder box] [Historical] a short gun with a broad muzzle

blunt (blunt) *adj.* [*<* ?] 1 having a dull edge, etc. 2 plain-spoken —*vt., vi.* to make or become dull —**blunt'ly** *adv.* —**blunt'ness** *n.*

blur (blər) *vt., vi.* blurred, blur'ring [*<* ?] 1 to smear or smudge 2 to make or become indistinct in shape, etc. 3 to dim —*n.* anything indistinct or hazy —**blur'ry**, -ri-er, -ri-est, *adj.* —**blur'ri-ness** *n.*

blurb (blərb) *n.* [*a coinage*] an advertisement, as on a book jacket, esp. a laudatory one

blurt (blɜrt) *vt.* [*prob. echoic*] to say impulsively: often with *out*

blush (blush) *vi.* [*<* OE *blyscan*, to shine] 1 to become red in the face, as from embarrassment 2 to be ashamed: usually with *at* or *for* 3 to become rosy —*n.* 1 a reddening of the face, as from shame 2 a rosy color 3 **BLUSHER** (sense 2). —*adj.* rosy —**at first blush** at first sight

blush'er *n.* 1 one who blushes readily 2 a red or reddish cosmetic powder, cream, etc. for the cheeks

blush wine a dry, pale-pink wine

blus·ter (blus'tər) *vi.* [*? <* LowG *blüsteren*] 1 to blow stormily: said of wind 2 to speak in a noisy, swaggering manner —*n.* 1 stormy blowing or noisy commotion 2 noisy or swaggering talk —**blus'ter·er** *n.* —**blus'ter-y** *adj.*

Bld *abbrev.* Boulevard

BM *abbrev.* [*Inf.*] bowel movement

BO *abbrev.* body odor

bo·a (bō'ə) *n.* [*L*] 1 a tropical snake that suffocates its prey in its coils, as the anaconda 2 a woman's long scarf, as of fur or feathers

boar (bôr) *n., pl. boars* or **boar** [*OE bar*] 1 a mature, uncastrated male pig 2 a wild hog

board (bôrd) *n.* [*OE bord*, plank] 1 a long, flat piece of sawed wood 2 a flat piece of wood, etc. for some special use [*bulletin board*] 3 pasteboard 4 meals, esp. as provided regularly for pay 5 a group of administrators; council 6 [*also B-*] [*pl.*] *Educ.* a qualifying examination for admission to an academic program —*vt.* 1 to cover (*up*) with boards 2 to provide with meals, or room and meals, regularly for pay 3 to get on (a ship, train, etc.) —*vi.* to receive meals, or room and meals, regularly for pay —**on board** 1 on a ship, aircraft, etc. 2 in a group as a member, etc. —**the boards** the stage (of a theater) —**board'er** *n.*

board'ing-house' *n.* a house where meals, or room and meals, can be had for pay: also **boarding house**

board'walk' *n.* a walk made of thick boards, esp. one along a beach

boast (bōst) *vi.* [*<* Anglo-Fr] to talk, esp.

about oneself, with too much pride; brag —*vt.* 1 to brag about 2 glory in having or doing (something) —*n.* 1 a boasting 2 anything boasted of —**boast'er** *n.* —**boast'ful** *adj.* —**boast'fully** *adv.*

boat (bōt) *n.* [OE *bat*] 1 a small, open vehicle for traveling on water 2 loosely, a ship 3 a boat-shaped dish — **in the same boat** in the same unfavorable situation —**rock the boat** [Inf.] to disturb the status quo —**boat'man** (-mən), *pl.* -men (-mən), *n.*

boat'er *n.* a stiff straw hat with a flat crown and brim

boat'ing *n.* rowing, sailing, etc.

boat-swain (bō'sən) *n.* a ship's petty officer in charge of the deck crew, the rigging, anchors, boats, etc.

bob (bāb) *n.* [ME *bobbe*, hanging cluster; 3 & 4 < the *v.*] 1 any knoblike hanging weight 2 a woman's or child's short haircut 3 a quick, jerky motion 4 a float on a fishing line —*vt.* **bobbed**, **bob'bing** [ME *bobben*, knock against] 1 to make move with a jerky motion 2 to cut (hair, etc.) short —*vi.* to move with a jerky motion —**bob up** to appear suddenly

bob·bin (bāb'in) *n.* [Fr *bobine* < ?] a spool for thread or yarn, used in spinning, machine sewing, etc.

bob·ble (bāb'əl) *n.* [Inf.] *Sports* an awkward fumbling of the ball —*vt.* -bled, -bling [Inf.] to make a bobble with (a ball)

bob·by (bāb'ē) *n., pl.* -bies [after Sir Robert (Bobby) Peel (1788-1850), who reorganized the London police force] [Inf., Chiefly Brit.] a British policeman

bobby pin [from use with *bobbed* hair] a small metal hairpin with the sides pressing close together

bobby socks (or **sox**) [< BOB (*vt.* 2)] [Inf.] esp. in the 1940s and 1950s, girls' ankle-length socks

bob'by-sox'er or **bob'by-sox'er** (-sāks'ər) *n.* [Inf.] esp. in the 1940s, a girl in her early teens

bob'cat *n.* a small North American lynx

bob'sled *n.* a long racing sled with a protective shell —*vi.* -sled'ded, -sled'ding to ride or race on a bobsled

Boc·cac·ci·o (bō käch'ē ō; *It* bō käch'ō), **Gio·van·ni** (jō vān'nē) 1313-75; *It.* writer

boc·cie, **boc·ce**, or **boc·ci** (bäch'ē) *n.* [It *bocce*, (wooden) balls] an Italian game similar to lawn bowling

bode¹ (bōd) *vt.* **bod'ed**, **bod'ing** [< OE *boda*, messenger] to be an omen of — **bode ill** (or **well**) to be a bad (or good) omen

bode² (bōd) *vi.* *alt. pt.* of BIDE

bod·ice (bād'is) *n.* [altered < *bodies*, *pl.* of *body*] the upper part of a dress

bod·i·ly (bād'ī ē) *adj.* 1 physical 2 of, in, by, or to the body —*adv.* 1 in person 2 as a single group

bod·kin (bād'kin) *n.* [ME *bodekin* < ?] [Obs.] a dagger

bod·y (bād'ē) *n., pl.* -ies [OE *hodig*, cask] 1 the whole physical substance of a human being, animal, or plant 2

the trunk of a human being or animal 3 a corpse 4 [Inf.] a person 5 a distinct group of people or things 6 the main part 7 a distinct mass [a *body* of water] 8 density or consistency, as of paint or fabric 9 richness of flavor

bod'y-guard *n.* a person or persons assigned to guard someone

body language gestures, unconscious bodily movements, etc. that serve as nonverbal communication

body politic the people who collectively constitute a political unit under a government

body stocking a tightfitting garment, usually of one piece, that covers the torso and, sometimes, the legs

bod'y-suit *n.* a one-piece, tightfitting garment that covers the torso, usually worn with slacks, a skirt, etc.: also **body shirt**.

Boer (bōr, bōr, bō'ər) *n.* [Du *boer*, peasant] a South African of Dutch descent

bog (bäg, bōg) *n.* [< Gael & Ir *bog*, soft, moist] wet, spongy ground; a small marsh —*vt., vi.* **bogged**, **bog'ging** to sink in or as in a bog: often with *down* —**bog'gy** *adj.*

bo·gey (bō'gē; *for* 1, usually bōg'ē) *n.* 1 BOGY 2 [after an imaginary Col. *Bogey*] *Golf* one stroke more than par on a hole: also **bo'gie**

bog·gle (bäg'əl) *vi.* -gled, -gling [< Scot *bogle*, specter] 1 to be startled (*at*) 2 to hesitate (*at*) —*vt.* to confuse (the mind, imagination, etc.)

Bo·go·tá (bō'gə tā') capital of Colombia: pop. 3,975,000

bo·gus (bō'gəs) *adj.* [< ?] not genuine; false

bo·gy (bōg'ē, bō'gē) *n., pl.* -gies [< Scot *bogle*, specter] an imaginary evil spirit; goblin: also **bo'gie**

bo·gy·man or **bo·gey·man** (bōg'ē man', bō'gē-) *n., pl.* -men' (-men') BOOGEYMAN

Bo·he·mi·a (bō hē'mē ə) region of Czech Republic: a former kingdom

Bo·he'mi·an (-ən) *n.* 1 CZECH (*n.* 2) 2 a person born or living in Bohemia 3 [usually *b-*] one who lives unconventionally —*adj.* 1 of Bohemia or its people, etc. 2 [usually *b-*] like a bohemian —**Bo·he'mi·an·ism** *n.*

bo·ho (bō'hō) [Slang] *n.* BOHEMIAN (*n.* 3) —*adj.* BOHEMIAN (*adj.* 2)

boil¹ (boil) *vi.* [< L *bulla*, a bubble] 1 to bubble up and vaporize over direct heat 2 to seethe like a boiling liquid 3 to be agitated, as with rage 4 to cook in boiling liquid —*vt.* 1 to heat to the boiling point 2 to cook in boiling liquid —*n.* the act or state of boiling —**boil down** 1 to lessen in quantity by boiling 2 to condense

boil² (boil) *n.* [OE *byle*] an inflamed, painful, pus-filled swelling on the skin

boil'er *n.* 1 a container in which things are boiled or heated 2 a tank in which water is turned to steam 3 a tank for heating water and storing it

boiling point 1 the temperature at

which a specified liquid boils 2 the point at which one loses one's temper

Boi-se (bōi'zē, -sē) capital of Idaho: pop. 126,000: also **Boise City**

bois-ter-ous (bois'tər əs) *adj.* [ME *bois-treous*, crude] 1 rough and stormy; turbulent 2 loud and exuberant; rowdy — **bois'ter-ous-ly** *adv.*

bok choy (bāk' chōi') [Chin] a variety of Chinese cabbage

bo-la (bō'lə) *n.* [< Sp, a ball] a set of cords with heavy balls at the ends, thrown to entangle cattle

bold (bōld) *adj.* [OE *beald*] 1 daring; fearless 2 too free in manner; impudent 3 steep 4 prominent and clear — **bold'ly** *adv.* — **bold'ness** *n.*

bold'face *n.* a heavy, dark printing type

bold'faced *adj.* impudent

bōle (bōl) *n.* [ON *bolr*] a tree trunk

bo-le-ro (bō ler'ō) *n., pl. -ros* [Sp < L *bulla*, a bubble] 1 a lively Spanish dance, or the music for it 2 a short, open vest

Bol-i-var (bäl'ə vər), **Si-món** (sī'mən) 1783-1830; South American revolutionary leader

Bo-liv-i-a (bə liv'ē ə) inland country in WC South America: 424,165 sq. mi.; pop. 7,610,000 — **Bo-liv'i-an** *adj., n.*

boll (bōl) *n.* [ME *bolle*, BOWL¹] the roundish seed pod of a plant, esp. of cotton or flax

boll weevil a small weevil whose larvae destroy cotton bolls

bo-lo-gna (bə lō'nē) *n.* [after *Bologna*, It city] a large smoked sausage of beef, pork, or veal

Bol-she-vik (bōl'shə vik') *n., pl. -viks' or -vi'ki* (-vē'kē) [Russ < *ból'she*, larger] [also *b-*] 1 a member of a faction that seized power in Russia in 1917 2 a Communist, esp. of the Soviet Union — **Bol'she-vism** *n.* — **Bol'she-vist** *n., adj.*

bol-ster (bōl'stər) *n.* [OE] 1 a long, narrow pillow 2 any bolsterlike object or support — **vt.** to prop up as with a bolster: often with *up*

bolt¹ (bōlt) *n.* [OE] 1 a short, blunt arrow shot from a crossbow 2 a flash of lightning 3 a sudden dash 4 a sliding bar for locking a door, etc. 5 a threaded metal rod used with a nut for joining parts 6 a roll (of cloth, paper, etc.) — **vt.** 1 to say suddenly; blurt (out) 2 to swallow (food) hurriedly 3 to fasten as with a bolt 4 to abandon (a party, group, etc.) — **vi.** 1 to start suddenly; spring away 2 to withdraw support from one's party, etc. — **bolt upright** erect or erectly

bolt² (bōlt) **vt.** [< OFr *buleter*] to sift (flour, grain, etc.)

bo-lus (bō'ləs) *n.* [< Gr *bōlos*] 1 a small, round lump 2 a mass injected into a blood vessel, as a radioactive tracer 3 a large pill

bomb (bām) *n.* [prob. < Gr *bombos*, hollow sound] 1 a container filled as with an explosive or incendiary chemical, for dropping, hurling, etc. 2 a small con-

tainer with compressed gas in it [an aerosol bomb] 3 [Inf.] a complete failure — **vt.** to attack with bombs — **vi.** [Inf.] to be a complete failure

bom-bard (bām bārd') **vt.** [< Fr *bombarde*, mortar] 1 to attack with artillery or bombs 2 to attack with questions, etc. 3 to direct a stream of particles at (atomic nuclei) — **bom-bard'ment** *n.*

bom'bar-dier (-bər dir') *n.* one who releases the bombs in a bomber

bom-bast (bām'bast') *n.* [< Pers *pambak*, cotton] grand, pompous language with little real meaning — **bom-bas'tic** *adj.* — **bom-bas'ti-cal-ly** *adv.*

Bom-bay (bām'bā') seaport in W India: pop. 8,243,000: now officially *Mumbai*

bomb-er (bām'ər) *n.* 1 an airplane for dropping bombs 2 one who bombs

bomb'shell *n.* 1 a bomb 2 any sudden, shocking surprise

bo-na fi-de (bō'nə fīd', bō'nə fī'dē) [L] 1 in good faith; without fraud [a *bona fide* offer] 2 genuine; real [a *bona fide* movie star]

bo-nan-za (bə nan'zə) *n.* [Sp, prosperity] 1 a rich vein of ore 2 any source of wealth

Bo-na-parte (bō'nə pärt'), **Na-po-le-on** (nə pō'lē ən) 1769-1821; Fr. military leader & emperor (1804-15)

bon-bon (bän'bän'; Fr *bōn bōn'*) *n.* [< Fr *bon*, good] a small piece of candy

bond (bänd) *n.* [ult. < Gothic *bindan*, bind] 1 anything that binds, fastens, or unites 2 [*pl.*] shackles 3 a binding agreement 4 an obligation imposed by a contract, promise, etc. 5 the status of goods kept in a warehouse until taxes or duties are paid 6 an interest-bearing certificate issued by a government or business, redeemable on a specified date 7 surety provided against theft, embezzlement, etc. 8 an amount paid for bail, etc. — **vt.** 1 to join; bind 2 to furnish surety for (someone) 3 to place or hold (goods) in bond

bond-age (bän'dij) *n.* [ult. < ON *bua*, inhabit] 1 serfdom or slavery 2 subjection to some force, influence, etc.

bond'ing *n.* the development of a close relationship, esp. between family members

bond'man (-mən) *n., pl. -men* (-mən) 1 a serf 2 a slave — **bond'wom'an**, *pl. -wom'en*, *fem.n.*

bond paper [orig. used for bonds, etc.] high-quality writing paper

bonds-man (bändz'mən) *n., pl. -men* (-mən) 1 BONDMAN 2 one who furnishes bail, etc.

bone (bōn) *n.* [< OE *ban*] 1 any of the parts of hard tissue forming the skeleton of most vertebrates 2 this hard tissue 3 a bonelike substance or thing — **vt.** **boned**, **bon'ing** to remove the bones from — **vi.** [Slang] to study hard: usually with *up* — **have a bone to pick** [Inf.] to have cause to quarrel — **make no bones about** [Inf.] admit freely — **boneless** *adj.*

bone china translucent china made of white clay to which the ash of burned bones has been added

bone'-dry' adj. [Inf.] very dry

bone meal crushed or ground bones, used as feed, fertilizer, or a nutritional supplement

bon·er (bôn'ər) *n.* [Slang] a blunder

bon·fire (băn'fir') *n.* [ME *banefyre*, bone fire, pyre] an outdoor fire

bong (bôn, bân) *n.* [echoic] a deep ringing sound, as of a large bell —*vi.* to make this sound



BONGOS

bon·go (băn'gō) *n., pl. -gos* [AmSp < ?] either of a pair of small drums of different pitch struck with the fingers: in full bongo drum

bo·ni·to (bō nēt'ō, bə-) *n., pl. -tos or -toes* [Sp] a saltwater food fish similar to a tuna

bon·jour (bôn zhōōr') *interj., n.* [Fr] good day; hello

bonk·ers (băn'kərz) *adj.* [Slang] crazy

bon mot (bôn' mō'; Fr bôn mō') *pl. bons mots* (bôn' mōz'; Fr, -mō') [Fr, lit., good word] a clever or witty remark

Bonn (băn) city in W Germany: capital of West Germany (1949-90): pop. 298,000

bon·net (băn'it) *n.* [< OFr *bonet*] [Inf.] any hat worn by a woman or girl

bon·ny or **bon·nie** (băn'ē) *adj. -ni·er, -ni·est* [< L *bonus*, good] [Now Chiefly Brit.] 1 handsome or pretty, with a healthy glow 2 pleasant

bo·no·bo (bə nō'bō) *n., pl. -bos* a kind of chimpanzee, small with long limbs

bon·sai (băn'sī') *n., pl. -sai'* [Jpn] a tree or shrub grown in a pot and dwarfed by pruning, etc.

bo·nus (bō'nəs) *n., pl. -nus·es* [L, good] anything given in addition to the customary or required amount

bon voy·age (băn' voi äzh') [Fr] pleasant journey

bon·y (bō'nē) *adj. -i·er, -i·est* 1 of, like, or having bones 2 thin; emaciated

bony fish any fish with an air bladder, covered gills, and a bony skeleton

boo (bō) *interj., n., pl. boos* a sound made to express disapproval, etc., or to startle someone —*vi., vt. booed, boo'ing* to shout "boo" (at)

boo·boo or **boo·boo** (bōō'bōō') *n., pl. -boos'* [Slang] a stupid mistake

boob tube [Slang] TV or a TV set

boo·by (bōō'bē) *n., pl. -bies* [prob. < Sp *bobo*] a fool; nitwit: also **boob** (bōōb)

booby trap any scheme or device for tricking a person unexpectedly

boo·dle (bōōd'l) *n.* [< Du *boedel*, property] [Old Slang] 1 something given as a bribe; graft 2 the loot taken in a robbery

boo·gey·man (boog'ē man', bō'gē-) *n., pl. -men' (-men')* a frightening imaginary being

book (book) *n.* [OE *boc*] 1 a printed work on sheets of paper bound together, usually between protective covers 2 a main division of a literary work 3 [usually *pl.*] the records or accounts as of a business 4 [*pl.*] studies; lessons 5 a) a libretto b) the script of a play 6 a booklike package, as of matches —*vt.* 1 to record in a book; list 2 to engage (rooms, etc.) ahead of time 3 to record charges against on a police record —*by the book* according to the rules —*the (Good) Book* the Bible

book'bind'ing *n.* the art, trade, or business of binding books —**book'bind'er** *n.*

book'case' *n.* a set of shelves or a cabinet for holding books

book'end' *n.* a support, usually one of a pair, used to keep a row of books upright

book'ie (-ē) *n.* [Slang] a bookmaker

book'ing *n.* an engagement, as for a concert

book'ish (-ish) *adj.* 1 inclined to read and study 2 pedantic

book'keep'ing *n.* the work of keeping a record of business transactions — **book'keep'er** *n.*

book'let (-lit) *n.* a small book

book'mak'er *n.* a person in the business of taking bets, as on horses

book'mark' *n.* a thing put between the pages of a book to mark a place

book matches safety matches made of paper and fastened into a cardboard holder

book'mo·bile' (-mō bēl') *n.* a lending library in a van that visits rural schools, etc.

book'plate' *n.* a label pasted in a book to identify its owner

book'shelf *n., pl. -shelves'* a shelf on which books are kept

book'store' *n.* a store where books are sold: also **book'shop'**

book'worm' *n.* 1 an insect larva that feeds on the binding, paste, etc. of books 2 one who reads or studies frequently

boom¹ (bōōm) *vi., vt.* [echoic] to make, or say with, a deep, hollow, resonant sound —*n.* this sound

boom² (bōōm) *n.* [Du, a beam] 1 a spar extending from a mast to hold the bottom of a sail outstretched 2 a long beam extending as from an upright for supporting and guiding anything lifted [the boom of a derrick] 3 a barrier, as of logs, to prevent floating logs from dispersing —*vi.* to go rapidly along

boom³ (bōōm) *vi.* [< ? prec. *vi.*] to increase or grow rapidly —*n.* a period of prosperity

boom'box' *n.* [Slang] a large portable radio and tape player

boom'er *n.* short for BABY BOOMER

boom·er·ang (bōom'ər an') *n.* [*<* Australian native name] 1 a flat, curved stick that can be thrown so that it returns to the thrower 2 a scheme gone awry, to the schemer's harm —*vi.* to act as a boomerang

boom'town' *n.* a town that has grown very rapidly: also boom town

boon¹ (bōon) *n.* [*ON* *bon*, a petition] a welcome benefit; blessing

boon² (bōon) *adj.* [*<* *L* *bonus*, good] merry; convivial: now only in boon companion, a close friend

boon·docks (bōon'däks') *pl.n.* [*<* native Philippine name] [*Inf.*] 1 a jungle or wilderness 2 any remote rural region Used with *the*

boon·dog·gle (bōon'dôg'əl, -däg'-) *n.* a trifling, pointless project —*vi.* -gled, -gling to engage in a boondoggle — **boon'dog'gler** *n.*

boor (boor) *n.* [*Du* *boer*, a peasant] a rude, awkward, or ill-mannered person —**boor'ish** *adj.* —**boor'ish·ly** *adv.*

boost (bōost) *vt.* [*<* ?] 1 to raise as by a push from below 2 to urge others to support 3 to increase —*n.* 1 a push upward or forward 2 an increase — **boost'er** *n.*

booster shot a later injection of a vaccine, for maintaining immunity

boot¹ (bōot) *n.* [*O*Fr *bote*] 1 a covering of leather, rubber, etc. for the foot and part of the leg 2 a kick —*vt.* 1 to put boots on 2 to kick 3 [*Inf.*] to dismiss (a person) 4 to start (a computer): often with *up* —*vi.* to start a computer: usually with *up* —**the boot** [*Slang*] dismissal

boot² (bōot) *n., vt., vi.* [*OE* *bot*, advantage] [*Archaic*] profit —**to boot** besides; in addition

boot'black' *n.* one whose work is shining shoes or boots

boot·ee or **boot·ie** (bōō tē'; for 2 bōot'ē) *n.* 1 a short boot for women or children 2 a baby's knitted or cloth shoe

booth (bōoth) *n., pl.* booths (bōoths, bōothz) [*<* *ON* *bua*, dwell] 1 a stall for selling goods 2 a small enclosure for voting 3 a small structure to house a public telephone, etc. 4 an eating area in a restaurant with a table and benchlike seats

boot'leg' *vt., vi.* -legged', -leg'ging [*<* hiding liquor in a boot] to make or sell (liquor, etc.) illegally —*adj.* bootlegged; illegal —*n.* bootlegged liquor, etc. — **boot'leg'ger** *n.*

boot'less *adj.* [*BOOT*² + *-LESS*] useless

boo·ty (bōot'ē) *n., pl.* -ties [*LowG* *bute*] 1 spoils of war 2 plunder

booze (bōōz) *vi.* boozed, booz'ing [*<* *MDu* *busen*] [*Inf.*] to drink too much liquor —*n.* [*Inf.*] liquor — [*Slang*] **booz'er** *n.*

bop¹ (bäp) *vt.* bopped, bop'ping [*Inf.*] to hit; punch

bop² (bäp) *n.* a style of jazz (c. 1945-55) marked by complex rhythms, harmonic experimentation, etc. —*vi.* bopped,

bop'ping [*Slang*] to walk, esp. in an easy, strutting way

bo·rax (bôr'aks') *n.* [*<* Pers *būrah*] a white crystalline salt used in the manufacture of glass, soaps, etc.

Bor·deaux (bôr dō') *n.* [*after Bordeaux*, city and region in SW France] [*also b-*] 1 a red or white wine from the Bordeaux region 2 a similar wine made elsewhere

bor·der (bôr'dər) *n.* [*<* *O*Fr *border*, to border] 1 an edge or part near an edge; margin 2 a dividing line between two countries, etc. 3 a narrow strip along an edge —*vt.* 1 to provide with a border 2 to extend along the edge of —*adj.* of or near a border —**border on** (or **upon**) 1 to be next to 2 to be like; almost be

bor'der·land' *n.* 1 land near a border 2 a vague condition

bor'der·line' *n.* a boundary —*adj.* 1 on a boundary 2 indefinite

bore¹ (bôr) *vt.* bored, bor'ing [*<* *OE* *bor*, auger] 1 to make a hole in with a drill, etc. 2 to make (a well, etc.) as by drilling 3 to weary by being dull —*vi.* to bore a hole or passage —*n.* 1 a hole made as by boring 2 *a*) the hollow part of a tube or gun barrel *b*) its inside diameter 3 a tiresome, dull person or thing

bore² (bôr) *vt., vi. pt.* of BEAR¹

bore·dom (bôr'dəm) *n.* the condition of being bored or uninterested

bo·ric acid (bôr'ik) a white crystalline compound, used as an antiseptic; in making glass, etc.

born (bôrn) *vt., vi. alt. pp.* of BEAR¹ — *adj.* 1 brought into life 2 natural, as if from birth [*a born athlete*]

born-a·gain (bôrn'ə gen') *adj.* having a new, strong faith or belief

borne (bôrn) *vt., vi. alt. pp.* of BEAR¹

Bor·ne·o (bôr'nē ō') large island in the Malay Archipelago

bo·ron (bôr'än') *n.* [*<* BORAX] a nonmetallic chemical element

bor·ough (bär'ō) *n.* [*OE* *burg*, town] 1 a self-governing, incorporated town 2 any of the five administrative units of New York City

bor·row (bär'ō, bôr'-) *vt., vi.* [*OE* *bor·gian*] 1 to take or receive (something) with the intention of returning it 2 to adopt (an idea, etc.) as one's own — **bor'row·er** *n.*

borscht or **borsch** (bôrsh) *n.* [*Russ* *borshch*] a beet soup, served usually with sour cream

bor·zoi (bôr'zoi') *n.* [*Russ* *borzój*, swift] a large dog with a narrow head, long legs, and silky coat

bōsh (bāsh) *n., interj.* [*Turk*, empty] [*Inf.*] nonsense

Bos·ni·a and Her·ze·go·vi·na (bäz'nē ə and hert'sə gō vē'nə) country in SE Europe: 19,741 sq. mi.; pop. 4,366,000 —**Bos'ni·an** *adj., n.*

bos·om (booz'am; *also* bōō'zəm) *n.* [*OE* *bosm*] 1 the human breast 2 the breast regarded as the source of feelings 3 the inside; midst [*in the bosom of one's family*] 4 the part of a garment

that covers the breast —*adj.* close; intimate [*a bosom friend*]

bos'om-y *adj.* having large breasts

bos-on (bō'sän) *n.* [after S. N. Bose (1894-1974), Indian physicist + -ON] any of certain subatomic particles, including photons and mesons

boss¹ (bôs, bäs) *n.* [Du *baas*, a master] 1 an employer or manager 2 one who controls a political organization —*vt.* 1 to act as boss of 2 [Inf.] to order (a person) about —*adj.* [Slang] excellent

boss² (bôs, bäs) *n.* [OFr *boce*, a swelling] a protruding ornament or projecting knob

boss'y *adj.* -i-er, -i-est [Inf.] domineering —**boss'i-ness** *n.*

Bos-ton (bôs'tän, bäs'-) seaport & capital of Massachusetts: pop. 574,000 — **Bos-to'ni-an** (-tō'nē ən) *adj.*, *n.*

bo-sun (bō'sän) *n.* phonetic sp. of BOAT-SWAIN

bot-a-ny (bät'n ē) *n.* [< Gr *botanē*, a plant] the science that deals with plants and plant life —**bo-tan-i-cal** (bə tan'i kəl) or **bo-tan'ic** *adj.* —**bot'a-nist** *n.*

botch (bäch) *vt.* [ME *bocchen*, to repair < ?] to bungle —*n.* a bungled piece of work —**botch'er** *n.*

bot-fly (bät'fli') *n.*, *pl.* -flies' a fly resembling a small bumblebee

both (bōth) *adj.*, *pron.* [OE *ba tha*, both these] the two [*both birds sang loudly*] —*conj.*, *adv.* together; equally [*both tired and hungry*]

both-er (bäth'ər) *vt.*, *vi.* [prob. < *pother*] 1 to worry; harass 2 to concern (one-self) —*n.* 1 worry; trouble 2 one who gives trouble —**both'er-some** (-səm) *adj.*

Bot-swa-na (bät swä'nə) country in S Africa: 224,607 sq. mi.; pop. 1,327,000

Bot-ti-cel-li (bät'ə chel'ē; *It* bôt'tē chel'ē), **San-dro** (sän'drô) 1445?-1510; *It.* painter

bot-tle (bät'l) *n.* [< LL *buttis*, a cask] 1 a narrow-necked container for liquids, usually of glass 2 its contents —*vt.* -tled, -tling to put into a bottle —**bottle up** to restrain —**hit the bottle** [Slang] to drink much alcoholic liquor — **bot'tler** *n.*

bot'tle-neck' *n.* 1 a narrow passage or road where traffic is slowed or stopped 2 any similar hindrance to movement or progress

bot-tom (bät'am) *n.* [OE *botm*, ground] 1 the lowest part or place 2 the part on which something rests 3 the side underneath 4 the seat of a chair 5 the ground beneath a body of water 6 basis; cause; source 7 [Inf.] the buttocks —*adj.* lowest; last; basic —**at bot-tom** fundamentally —**bot'tom-less** *adj.*

bottom line 1 [Inf.] profits or losses, as of a business 2 [Slang] *a*) the basic factor, etc. *b*) the final statement, decision, etc.

bot-u-lism (bäch'ə liz'am) *n.* [< L *botulus*, sausage] poisoning, often fatal, by the toxin produced by a bacterium sometimes found in foods improperly canned or preserved

bou·doir (bō dwär', bō'dwär') *n.* [< Fr, lit., pouting room] a woman's private room

bouf·fant (bō fänt') *adj.* [< Fr *bouffer*, puff out] puffed out; full

bou·gain·vil·le·a or **bou·gain·vil·lae·a** (bō'gän vil'ē ə, -vil'yə, -vē'yə) *n.* [ModL] a woody tropical vine having large, showy purple or red bracts

bough (bou) *n.* [OE *bog*, shoulder or arm] a main branch of a tree

bought (bôt) *vt. pt. & pp. of* BUY

bouil·lon (bōol'yän', -yän) *n.* [< Fr *bouillir*, to boil] a clear broth

boul·der (bōl'dər) *n.* [< ME *bulderston*, noisy stone] a large rock worn by weather and water

bou·le·vard (bōol'ə vārd') *n.* [Fr < MDu *bolwerc*, bulwark] a broad street lined with trees, etc.

bounce (bouns) *vi.* bounced, bounc'ing [ME *bounsen*, to thump] 1 to spring back, as upon impact; rebound 2 to spring; leap 3 [Slang] to be returned: said of a worthless check —*vt.* 1 to cause (a ball, etc.) to bounce 2 [Slang] to put (a person) out by force 3 [Slang] to fire from a job —*n.* 1 *a*) a bouncing; rebound *b*) a leap or jump 2 capacity for bouncing 3 [Inf.] energy, zest, etc. —**the bounce** [Slang] dismissal — **bounc'y** *adj.*

bounc'er *n.* [Slang] a person hired to remove disorderly people from a nightclub, restaurant, etc.

bounc'ing *adj.* big, healthy, etc.

bound¹ (bound) *vi.* [< OFr *bondir*, to leap] 1 to move with a leap or leaps 2 to bounce; rebound —*vt.* to cause to bound or bounce —*n.* 1 a jump; leap 2 a bounce; rebound

bound² (bound) *vt.*, *vi. pt. & pp. of* BIND —*adj.* 1 tied 2 closely connected 3 certain; sure [*bound to lose*] 4 obliged 5 having a binding: said as of a book 6 [Inf.] determined; resolved

bound³ (bound) *adj.* [< ON *bua*, prepare] going; headed [*bound for home*]

bound⁴ (bound) *n.* [< ML *butina*, boundary] 1 a boundary 2 [*pl.*] an area near a boundary —*vt.* 1 to limit 2 to be a limit or boundary to 3 to name the boundaries of —**out of bounds** 1 beyond the boundaries 2 forbidden

bound·a·ry (boun'drē, -də rē) *n.*, *pl.* -ries anything marking a limit; bound

bound'en *adj.* [old pp. of BIND] 1 [Archaic] obligated; indebted 2 obligatory [*one's bounden duty*]

bound'er *n.* [< BOUND¹] [Inf., Chiefly Brit.] a cad

bound'less *adj.* unlimited; vast

boun·te·ous (boun'tē əs) *adj.* [see BOUNTY] 1 generous 2 plentiful — **boun'te-ous-ly** *adv.*

boun'ti·ful (-tə fəl) *adj.* BOUNTEOUS

boun'ty (-tē) *n.*, *pl.* -ties [< L *bonus*, good] 1 generosity 2 a generous gift 3 a reward or premium

bou·quet (bō kā'; for 2, usually bō-) *n.* [Fr] 1 a bunch of flowers 2 aroma, as of wine

bour·bon (bur'bən) *n.* [after *Bourbon* County, KY] [sometimes B-] a whiskey distilled from corn mash

bour·geois (boor zhvä') *n., pl. -geois'* [Fr < OFr *borc*, town] a member of the bourgeoisie —*adj.* of the bourgeoisie: used variously to mean conventional, smug, materialistic, etc.

bour·geoi·sie (boor'zhvä zē') *n.* [with *sing. or pl. v.*] the social class between the very wealthy and the working class; middle class

bout (bout) *n.* [ME *bught*] 1 a struggle or contest 2 a period of some activity, as a spell of illness

bou·tique (bō tēk'; *occas., bō-*) *n.* [Fr < L *apotheca*, storehouse] a small shop where fashionable articles are sold

bou·ton·niere or **bou·ton·nière** (bō' tə nir', -tən yer') *n.* [Fr, buttonhole] a flower worn in a buttonhole

bo·vine (bō'vin', -vën') *adj.* [< L *bos*, ox] 1 of an ox, cow, etc. 2 slow, dull, stupid, etc.

bow¹ (bou) *vi.* [< OE *būgan*, to bend] 1 to bend down the head or body in respect, agreement, etc. 2 to give in —*vt.* 1 to bend (the head or body) down in respect, etc. 2 to weigh (down) —*n.* a bending down of the head or body, as in respect or greeting —*take a bow* to acknowledge applause, etc.

bow² (bō) *n.* [OE *boga*] 1 anything curved [a rainbow] 2 a curve; bend 3 a flexible, curved strip of wood with a cord connecting the two ends, for shooting arrows 4 a slender stick strung with horsehairs, as for playing a violin 5 a decorative knot, as a bowknot —*adj.* curved —*vt., vi.* 1 to bend; curve 2 to play (a violin, etc.) with a bow

bow³ (bou) *n.* [< LowG *būg*] the front part of a ship, etc.

bowd·ler·ize (boud'lər iz') *vt.* -ized', -iz'ing [after T. Bowdler (1754-1825), Eng editor] to expurgate —**bowd'ler·ism'** *n.* —**bowd'ler·i·za'tion** *n.*

bow·el (bou'əl) *n.* [< L *botulus*, sausage] 1 an intestine, esp. of a human being 2 [*pl.*] the inner part —*move one's bowels* to defecate

bow·er (bou'ər) *n.* [< OE *bur*, dwelling] a place enclosed by boughs or vines; arbor

bow·ie knife (bō'ē, bō'-) [after Col. J. Bowie (1799?-1836)] a long single-edged hunting knife

bow·knot (bō' nāt') *n.* a decorative knot, usually with two loops and two ends

bowl¹ (bōl) *n.* [OE *bolla*] 1 a deep, rounded dish 2 the contents of a bowl 3 a bowllike thing or part 4 an amphitheater or stadium —**bowl'like** *adj.*

bowl² (bōl) *n.* [< L *bulla*, bubble] 1 the

wooden ball used in the game of lawn bowling 2 a roll of the ball in bowling —*vi.* 1 to roll a ball or participate in bowling 2 to move swiftly and smoothly —**bowl over** 1 to knock over 2 [Inf.] to astonish —**bowl'er** *n.*

bowl·der (bōl'dər) *n. alt. sp. of BOULDER*
bow·leg (bō'leg') *n.* a leg with outward curvature —**bow'leg'ged** (-leg'id, -legd') *adj.*

bowl'ing *n.* 1 a game in which a heavy ball is rolled along a wooden lane (bowling alley) at ten wooden pins 2 LAWN BOWLING

bowling green a lawn for lawn bowling

bowls (bōlz) *n.* LAWN BOWLING

bow·man (bō'mən) *n., pl. -men* (-mən) an archer

bow·sprit (bou'sprit', bō'-) *n.* [prob. < Du] a tapered spar extending forward from the bow of a sailing ship

bow tie (bō) a necktie tied in a bow

box¹ (bäks) *n.* [< Gr *pyxos*, BOX³] 1 a container, usually rectangular and lidded; case 2 the contents of a box 3 a boxlike thing or space [a jury box] 4 a small, enclosed group of seats, as in a theater 5 a booth [a sentry box] 6 *Baseball* an area designated for the batter, catcher, etc. —*vt.* to put into a box —**box in** (or up) to shut in or keep in; surround or confine —**in a box** [Inf.] in difficulty —**box'like** *adj.* —**box'y, -i·er, -i·est**, *adj.*

box² (bäks) *n.* [< ?] a blow struck with the hand —*vt.* 1 to strike with such a blow 2 to engage in boxing with —*vi.* to fight with the fists

box³ (bäks) *n.* [< Gr *pyxos*] an evergreen shrub with small leathery leaves: also **box'wood'**

box'car' *n.* a fully enclosed railroad freight car

box'er *n.* 1 one who boxes; prizefighter 2 a medium-sized dog with a sturdy body and a smooth coat

box'ing *n.* the skill or sport of fighting with the fists, esp. in padded leather mittens (**boxing gloves**)

box office 1 a place where admission tickets are sold, as in a theater 2 [Inf.] the power of a show or performer to attract a paying audience

box wrench a wrench with an enclosed head

boy (boi) *n.* [ME *boie*] 1 a male child 2 any man: familiar term 3 a male servant: a patronizing term —*interj.* [Slang] used to express pleasure, surprise, etc.: often oh, boy! —**boy'hood'** *n.* —**boy'ish** *adj.*

boy·cott (boi'kät') *vt.* [after Capt. Boycott, Irish land agent so treated in 1880] to join together in refusing to deal with, buy, etc. so as to punish or coerce —*n.* a boycotting

boy'friend' *n.* [Inf.] 1 a sweetheart or escort of a girl or woman 2 a boy who is someone's friend

Boy Scout a member of the Boy Scouts, a boys' organization that stresses outdoor life and service to others

boy·sen·ber·ry (boi'zən ber'ē) *n., pl.*



BOWIE KNIFE

-ries [after R. Boysen, U.S. horticulturist, developer (c. 1935)] a berry that is a cross of the raspberry, loganberry, and blackberry

Br¹ *abbrev.* 1 Branch 2 British 3 Brother

Br² *Chem. symbol for bromine*

bra (brä) *n.* [< BRASSIERE] a woman's undergarment for supporting the breasts

brace (bräs) *vt.* braced, bracing [< Gr *brachiōn*, arm] 1 to bind 2 to strengthen by supporting the weight of, etc. 3 to make ready for an impact, shock, etc. 4 to stimulate; invigorate — *n.* 1 a couple; pair 2 a thing that clasps or connects 3 [*pl.*] [Brit.] suspenders 4 a device for setting up or maintaining tension 5 either of the signs { }, used to connect words, lines, etc. 6 any propping device 7 *a*) a device for supporting a weak part of the body *b*) [often *pl.*] a device worn for straightening teeth 8 a tool for holding a drilling bit — **brace up** to call forth one's courage, etc.

brace and bit a tool for boring, consisting of a removable drill (*bit*) in a rotating handle (*brace*)

brace-let (bräs'lit) *n.* [< Gr *brachiōn*, arm] an ornamental band or chain worn around the wrist or arm — **brace'let-ed adj.**

brack-en (brak'an) *n.* [ME *braken*] a large, weedy fern found in meadows, woods, etc.

brack-et (brak'it) *n.* [< Fr *brague*, knee pants] 1 a support projecting from a wall, etc. 2 any angle-shaped support 3 either of the signs [], used to enclose a word, etc. 4 the part of a classified grouping within certain limits [high income *bracket*] — *vt.* 1 to support with brackets 2 to enclose within brackets 3 to classify together

brack-ish (brak'ish) *adj.* [< MDu *brak*] 1 salty 2 nauseating — **brack'ish-ness** *n.*

bract (brakt) *n.* [L *bractea*, thin metal plate] a modified leaf growing at the base of a flower or on its stalk

brad (brad) *n.* [ON *broddr*, arrow] a thin wire nail with a small head

brae (brä, brē) *n.* [ON *bra*, brow] [Scot.] a sloping bank; hillside

brag (brag) *vt., vi.* bragged, brag'ging [ME *braggen* < ?] to boast — *n.* boastful talk — **brag'ger** *n.*

brag'gart (-ärt) *n.* an offensively boastful person — *adj.* boastful

Brah-ma (brä'mə) *n.* Hindu god regarded as the creator of the universe

Brah-man (brä'mən) *n., pl.* -mans [Hindi < Sans, worship] 1 a member of the Hindu priestly caste 2 a breed of domestic cattle developed from the zebu of India and having a large hump

Brahms (brämz), Jo-han-nes (yō hän'əs) 1833-97; Ger. composer

braid (bräd) *vt.* [< OE *bregdan*, to move quickly] 1 to interweave three or more strands of (hair, straw, etc.) 2 to make by such interweaving — *n.* 1 a length of hair, etc. formed by braiding 2 a woven band of cloth, etc., used to bind or deco-

rate clothing

Braille (bräl) *n.* [after L. *Braille* (1809-52), its Fr inventor] [also *b-*] a system of printing for the blind, using raised dots felt with the fingers

brain (brän) *n.* [OE *brægen*] 1 the mass of nerve tissue in the cranium of vertebrates 2 [often *pl.*] intelligence 3 [Inf.] an intelligent person — *vt.* [Slang] to hit hard on the head

brain'child' *n.* [Inf.] an idea, plan, etc. produced by a person's own mental labor

brain drain [Inf.] an exhausting of the intellectual or professional resources of a country, region, etc., esp. through emigration

brain'less *adj.* foolish or stupid

brain'storm' *n.* [Inf.] a sudden inspiration, idea, or plan — *vi.* to engage in brainstorming

brain'storm'ing *n.* the unrestrained offering of ideas by all members of a group to seek solutions to problems

brain'wash' *vt.* [Inf.] to indoctrinate so thoroughly as to effect a radical change of beliefs and attitudes

brain wave a series of rhythmic electric impulses from the nerve centers in the brain

brain'y *adj.* -i-er, -i-est [Inf.] having a good mind; intelligent

braise (bräz) *vt.* braised, brais'ing [< Fr *braise*, live coals] to brown (meat, etc.) and then simmer slowly

brake (brāk) *n.* [< ODu *breken*, to break] any device for slowing or stopping a vehicle or machine, as by causing a block, band, etc. (**brake shoe**) to press against a moving part — *vt., vi.* braked, brak'ing to slow down or stop with or as with a brake — **brake'less** *adj.*

brake'man (-mən) *n., pl.* -men (-mən) a railroad worker who operated the brakes on a train, but is now chiefly an assistant to the conductor

bram-ble (bram'bəl) *n.* [< OE *brom*, broom (the plant)] a prickly shrub of the rose family, as the raspberry or blackberry — **bram'bly** *adj.*

Bramp-ton (bramp'tən) city in SE Ontario, Canada: pop. 268,000

bran (bran) *n.* [OFr *bren*] the husk of grains of wheat, rye, etc. separated from the flour

branch (branch) *n.* [< LL *branca*, a claw] 1 any woody extension from a tree or shrub; limb 2 a tributary stream 3 any part or extension of a main body or system, as a division of a family or a separately located unit of a business, library, etc. — *vi.* 1 to put forth branches 2 to come out (from the main part) as a branch — **branch off** 1 to separate into branches 2 to diverge — **branch out** to extend one's interests, activities, etc. — **branched** (brancht) *adj.* — **branch'like** *adj.*

brand (brand) *n.* [OE < *biernan*, to burn] 1 a burning or partially burned stick 2 a mark burned on the skin, formerly used to punish criminals, now used on cattle to show ownership 3 the

iron used in branding 4 a stigma 5 *a*) an identifying mark or label on a company's products *b*) the make of a commodity [*a brand of coffee*] *c*) a special kind —*vt.* 1 to mark with a brand 2 to put a stigma on —*brand'er n.*

brand'ing *n.* the marketing of products by connecting them with a popular brand name

bran-dish (bran'dish) *vt.* [*< OFr brandir*] to wave menacingly or as a challenge; flourish

brand name the name by which a certain brand or make of commodity is known —*brand'-name' adj.*

brand'-new' *adj.* [*orig., fresh from the fire: see BRAND*] entirely new

bran-dy (bran'dē) *n., pl. -dies* [*< Du brandewijn, distilled wine*] an alcoholic liquor distilled from wine or from fermented fruit juice —*vt. -died, -dy-ing* to flavor or preserve with brandy

brant (brant) *n.* [*< ?*] a wild goose of Europe and North America

brash (brash) *adj.* [*orig. Brit dial.; < ?*] 1 hasty and reckless 2 insolent; impudent

Bra-sí-lia (brä zē'lyä; *E* brə zil'yə) capital of Brazil, in the central part: pop. 1,596,000

brass (bras) *n., pl. brass'es* [*OE bræs*] 1 a yellowish metal, an alloy of copper and zinc 2 [*often with pl. v.*] musical instruments made of brass 3 [*Inf.*] bold impudence 4 [*often with pl. v.*] [*Slang*] officers or officials of high rank —*adj.* of brass —*brass'y, -i-er, -i-est, adj.*

bras-siere or **bras-sière** (brə zir') *n.* [*Fr < bras, an arm*] a bra

brass tacks [*Inf.*] basic facts: used chiefly in *get (or come) down to brass tacks*

brat (brat) *n.* [*< Gael bratt, cloth, rag, ? child's bib*] a child, esp. an impudent, unruly child: scornful or playful term

Bra-ti-sla-va (brä'ti slä'və) capital of Slovakia, on the Danube: pop. 448,000

brat-wurst (brät'wurst') *n.* [*Ger < OHG, brato, lean meat + wurst, sausage*] highly seasoned, fresh sausage of veal and pork

braun-schwei-ger (brəun'shwī'gər) *n.* [*after Braunschweig, Germany, where orig. made*] smoked liver sausage

bra-va-do (brə vā'dō) *n.* [*< Sp < bravo, brave*] pretended courage or feigned defiant confidence

brave (brāv) *adj.* *brav'er, brav'est* [*Fr < It bravo*] 1 not afraid; having courage 2 having a fine appearance —*n.* 1 any brave man 2 a North American Indian warrior —*vt. braved, brav'ing* 1 to face with courage 2 to defy; dare —*brave'ly adv. —brave'ness n.*

brav-er-y (brāv'ər ē) *n.* courage; valor

bra-vo (brä'vō) *interj.* [*It*] well done! excellent! —*n., pl. -vos* a shout of "bravo!"

bra-vu-ra (brə vyoor'ə) *n.* [*It < bravo, brave*] 1 bold daring; dash 2 a brilliant musical passage or brilliant technique

brawl (brôl) *vi.* [*ME braulen, to cry out*] to quarrel or fight noisily —*n.* a noisy quarrel or fight

brawn (brôn) *n.* [*< OFr braon, muscle*] 1 strong, well-developed muscles 2 muscular strength —*brawn'y, -i-er, -i-est, adj. —brawn'i-ness n.*

bray (brā) *vi.* [*< OFr braire*] to make the loud, harsh cry of a donkey —*n.* the harsh cry of a donkey, or a sound like this

braze (brāz) *vt. brazed, braz'ing* [*Fr braser*] to solder with a metal having a high melting point

bra-zen (brā'zən) *adj.* [*< OE bræsen, brass*] 1 of brass 2 like brass in color, etc. 3 shameless; bold; impudent 4 harsh and piercing —*brazen it out* to act in a bold, unashamed way —*bra'zen-ly adv. —bra'zen-ness n.*

bra-zier¹ (brā'zhər) *n.* [*see BRAISE*] a metal container to hold burning coals

bra-zier² (brā'zhər) *n.* [*see BRASS*] a person who works in brass

Bra-zil (brə zil') country in South America, on the Atlantic: 3,286,485 sq. mi.; pop. 146,155,000 —*Bra-zil'ian adj., n.*

Brazil nut the edible, three-sided seed of a tree of South America

breach (brēch) *n.* [*< OE brecan, to break*] 1 a failure to observe a law, promise, etc. 2 an opening made by a breakthrough 3 a break in friendly relations —*vt.* 1 to make a breach in 2 to violate (a contract, etc.) —*breach of promise* a breaking of a promise, esp. to marry

bread (bred) *n.* [*OE, crumb*] 1 a baked food made of flour or meal mixed with water, etc. 2 livelihood [*to earn one's bread*] —*vt.* to coat with bread crumbs before cooking —*break bread* to eat

breadth (bredth) *n.* [*< OE brad, broad*] 1 width 2 scope; extent 3 lack of restriction

bread-win-ner (bred'win'ər) *n.* one who supports dependents by his or her earnings

break (brāk) *vt. broke, bro'ken, break'ing* [*OE brecan*] 1 to split or crack into pieces; smash 2 to cut open the surface of (soil, the skin, etc.) 3 to make unusable by cracking, disrupting, etc. 4 to tame as with force 5 to get rid of (a habit) 6 to demote 7 to make poor, ill, bankrupt, etc. 8 to surpass (a record) 9 to violate (a law, promise, etc.) 10 to disrupt the order of [*break ranks*] 11 to interrupt (a journey, electric circuit, etc.) 12 to reduce the force of by interrupting (a fall, etc.) 13 to bring to an end suddenly or by force 14 to penetrate (silence, darkness, etc.) 15 to disclose 16 to decipher or solve [*break a code*] —*vi.* 1 to split into pieces; come apart 2 to force one's way [*through obstacles, etc.*] 3 to stop associating (*with*) 4 to become unusable 5 to change suddenly [*his voice broke*] 6 to begin suddenly [*to break into song*] 7 to come suddenly into being, notice, etc. [*the story broke*] 8 to stop activity temporarily 9 to suffer a collapse as of spirit —*n.* 1 a breaking 2 a broken

place 3 a beginning or appearance [the *break* of day] 4 an interruption of regularity 5 a gap, interval, or rest 6 a sudden change 7 an escape 8 a chance piece of luck —**break down** 1 to go out of working order 2 to have a physical or nervous collapse 3 to analyze —**break in** 1 to enter forcibly 2 to interrupt 3 to train (a beginner) 4 to prepare (something new) by use or wear —**break off** to stop abruptly —**break out** 1 to become covered with pimples, etc. 2 to escape suddenly —**break up** 1 to separate; disperse 2 to stop 3 [Inf.] to laugh or make laugh —**give someone a break** [Inf.] to stop treating someone harshly, critically, etc. —**break'a-ble** *adj.*, *n.*

break'age *n.* 1 a breaking 2 things broken 3 loss due to breaking or the sum allowed for it

break'down' *n.* 1 a breaking down 2 a failure of health 3 an analysis

break'er *n.* 1 a person or thing that breaks 2 a wave that breaks into foam

break·fast (*brek'fəst*) *n.* the first meal of the day —*vi.* to eat breakfast

break·front (*brāk'frunt'*) *adj.* having a projecting center section in front —*n.* a breakfront cabinet

break'-in' *n.* the act of forcibly entering a building, esp. in order to rob

break'neck' *adj.* very fast, reckless, or dangerous [*breakneck* speed]

break'through' *n.* 1 the act of forcing a way through against resistance, as in warfare 2 a very important advance or discovery

break'up' *n.* 1 a dispersion 2 a disintegration 3 a collapse

break'wa'ter *n.* a barrier to break the impact of waves, as before a harbor

breast (*breſt*) *n.* [OE *breost*] 1 either of two milk-secreting glands on a woman's body 2 the upper front part of the body 3 the part of a garment, etc. over the breast 4 the breast regarded as the center of emotions —*vt.* to face firmly; oppose

breast'bone' *n.* STERNUM

breast'-feed' *vt.* -fed', -feed'ing to feed (a baby) milk from the breast

breast'plate' *n.* a piece of armor for the breast

breast stroke a swimming stroke in which both arms are brought out sideways from the chest

breast'work' *n.* a low wall put up quickly as a defense in battle

breath (*breth*) *n.* [< OE *bræth*, odor] 1 air taken into the lungs and then let out 2 respiration 3 the power to breathe easily 4 life; spirit 5 a fragrant odor 6 a slight breeze 7 a whisper; murmur —**catch one's breath** 1 to gasp 2 [Inf.] to rest or pause —**in the same breath** almost simultaneously —**out of breath** breathless, as from exertion —**take someone's breath away** to thrill someone —**under (or below) one's breath** in a whisper

breathe (*brēth*) *vi.*, *vt.* breathed, **breath'ing** 1 to take (air) into the lungs and let it out again; inhale and exhale 2 to live 3 to rest —**breathe again** to

have a feeling of relief —**breath'a-ble** *adj.*

breath·er (*brē'thər*) *n.* 1 one who breathes 2 [Inf.] a pause for rest

breath·less (*breth'lis*) *adj.* 1 without breath 2 panting; gasping 3 unable to breathe easily because of emotion —**breath'less-ly** *adv.*

breath'tak'ing *adj.* very exciting

breath'y *adj.* -i-er, -i-est marked by an audible emission of breath

bred (*bred*) *vt.*, *vi.* *pt.* & *pp.* of BREED

breech (*brēch*) *n.* [OE *brec*] 1 the buttocks 2 the part of a gun behind the barrel

breech'cloth' *n.* LOINCLOTH

breech·es (*brich'iz*) *pl.n.* [see BREECH] 1 trousers reaching to the knees 2 [Inf.] any trousers

breed (*brēd*) *vt.* bred, **breed'ing** [< OE *brod*, fetus] 1 to bring forth (offspring) 2 to be the source of; produce 3 to raise (animals) 4 to rear; train —*vi.* 1 to be produced; originate 2 to reproduce —*n.* 1 a stock; strain 2 a sort; type —**breed'er** *n.*

breed'ing *n.* 1 the producing of young 2 good upbringing 3 the producing of plants and animals, esp. for improving the stock

breeze (*brēz*) *n.* [16th-c. nautical term *brise*, prob. < Du] 1 a gentle wind 2 [Inf.] a thing easy to do —*vi.* breezed, **breez'ing** [Inf.] to move or go quickly

breeze'way' *n.* a covered passageway, as between a house and garage

breez'y *adj.* -i-er, -i-est 1 slightly windy 2 light and lively —**breez'i-ly** *adv.* —**breez'i-ness** *n.*

Bre·men (*brem'an*) seaport in NW Germany: pop. 553,000

breth·ren (*breth'rən*) *pl.n.* [ME *bretheren*] brothers: now chiefly religious

bre·vet (*brə vet'*) *n.* [< L *brevis*, brief] [Historical] *Mil.* a commission of higher honorary rank without extra pay —*vt.* -vet'ted or -vet'ed, -vet'ting or -vet'ing to give a brevet to

bre·vi·ar·y (*brē'vē er'ē*) *n.*, *pl.* -aries [< L *brevis*, brief] a book of Psalms, prayers, etc. to be recited daily by priests, nuns, etc.

brev·i·ty (*brev'ə tē*) *n.* [< L *brevis*, brief] 1 briefness 2 conciseness

brew (*brō*) *vt.* [OE *breowan*] 1 to make (beer, etc.) from malt and hops by boiling and fermenting 2 to steep (tea, etc.) 3 to plot —*vi.* to begin to form —*n.* a brewed beverage —**brew'er** *n.*

brew·er·y (*brō'ər ē*) *n.*, *pl.* -eries a place where beer, etc. is brewed

bri·ar¹ (*brī'ər*) *n.* BRIER¹

bri·ar² (*brī'ər*) *n.* a tobacco pipe made from the root of the BRIER²

bribe (*brīb*) *n.* [< OFr *briber*, to beg] anything given or promised as an inducement, esp. to do something illegal or wrong —*vt.* bribed, **brib'ing** to offer or give a bribe to —**brib'er·y** *n.*

bric-a-brac (*brik'ə brak'*) *n.* [< Fr *de bric et de brac*, by hook or by crook] 1

small artistic objects used to ornament a room 2 knickknacks

brick (brik) *n.* [MDu < *breken*, piece of baked clay] 1 an oblong block of baked clay, used in building, etc. 2 anything shaped like a brick 3 bricks collectively —*adj.* built or paved with brick —*vt.* to build or cover with brick

brick'bat' *n.* 1 a piece of brick used as a missile 2 an unfavorable remark

brick'lay'er *n.* one whose work is building with bricks —**brick'lay'ing** *n.*

brid'al (brīd'əl) *adj.* [< OE *bryd ealu*, marriage feast] 1 of a bride 2 of a wedding

bride (brīd) *n.* [OE *bryd*] a woman just married or about to be married

bride'groom' *n.* [< OE *bryd*, bride + *guma*, man] a man just married or about to be married

brides-maid (brīdz'mād') *n.* one of the women who attend the bride at a wedding

bridge¹ (brij) *n.* [OE *brycge*] 1 a structure built over a river, etc. to provide a way across 2 a thing that provides connection, contact, etc. 3 the bony upper part of the nose 4 a raised platform on a ship 5 a mounting for false teeth 6 *Music* a connecting passage —*vt.* bridged, bridg'ing to build or be a bridge over —**burn one's bridges** (behind one) to follow a course from which there is no retreat —**bridge'a-ble** *adj.*

bridge² (brij) *n.* [< ? Russ] a card game, for two pairs of players, in which they bid for the right to name the trump suit or declare no-trump

bridge'head' *n.* a fortified position established by an attacking force on the enemy's side of a bridge, river, etc.

Bridge-port (brij'pōrt') seaport in SW Connecticut: pop. 142,000

bridge'work' *n.* a dental bridge or bridges



BRIDLE

brī-dle (brīd'əl) *n.* [< OE *bregdan*, move quickly] 1 a head harness for guiding a horse: it has a bit for the mouth to which the reins are fastened 2 anything that controls or restrains —*vt.* bri'dled, bri'dling 1 to put a bridle on 2 to curb or control —*vi.* 1 to pull one's head back quickly as an expression of anger, scorn, etc. 2 to take offense (at)

bridle path a path for horseback riding

brief (brēf) *adj.* [< L *brevis*] 1 short 2 concise —*n.* 1 a summary, specif. of the main points of a law case 2 [pl.] legless undershorts —*vt.* 1 to summarize 2 to supply with all pertinent information —**brief'ly** *adv.* —**brief'ness** *n.*

brief'case' *n.* a flat, flexible case for carrying papers, books, etc.

brief'ing *n.* a supplying of pertinent information

bri'er¹ (brī'ər) *n.* [OE *brer*] any thorny bush, as a bramble

bri'er² (brī'ər) *n.* [Fr *bruyère*] a variety of heath, whose root is used for making tobacco pipes

brig¹ (brig) *n.* [< BRIGANTINE] a two-masted ship with square sails

brig² *n.* [< ?] a prison, as on a warship

brigade (brī gād') *n.* [< OIt *briga*, strife] 1 a military unit composed of two or more battalions with service and administrative units 2 a group of people organized to function as a unit in some work [a fire *brigade*]

brig-a-dier general (brig'ə dir') *U.S. Mil.* a military officer ranking just above a colonel

brig-and (brig'ənd) *n.* [see BRIGADE] a bandit, esp. one of a roving band

brig'and-age *n.* plundering by brigands

brig-an-tine (brig'ən tēn') *n.* [< OIt *brigantino*, pirate vessel] a ship with a square-rigged foremast and a square-rigged topsail on the mainmast

bright (brīt) *adj.* [OE *bryht*] 1 shining with light 2 brilliant in color or sound; vivid 3 lively; cheerful 4 mentally quick; smart 5 favorable or hopeful 6 illustrious —**bright'ly** *adv.* —**bright'ness** *n.*

bright'en *vt., vi.* to make or become bright or brighter

Brigh-ton (brīt'n) resort city in S England: county district pop. 144,000

bril-liant (bril'yənt) *adj.* [< Fr < It *brillare*, to sparkle] 1 shining brightly 2 vivid; intense 3 very splendid 4 very intelligent, talented, etc. —**bril'liance** or **bril'lian-cy** *n.* —**bril'liant-ly** *adv.*

bril-lian-tine (bril'yən tēn') *n.* [< Fr] an oily substance for grooming the hair

brim (brim) *n.* [ME *brimme*] 1 the topmost edge of a cup, glass, etc. 2 a projecting rim, as of a hat —*vt., vi.* brimmed, brim'ming to fill or be full to the brim —**brim'less** *adj.*

brim'ful' (-fool') *adj.* full to the brim

brim'stone' *n.* [< OE *bærnan*, to kindle + *stan*, stone] sulfur

brin-dle (brin'dəl) *adj.* BRINDLED —*n.* 1 a brindled color 2 a brindled animal

brin'dled (-dəld) *adj.* [prob. < ME *brennen*, to burn] having a gray or tawny coat streaked or spotted with a darker color

brine (brīn) *n.* [OE] 1 water full of salt 2 the ocean —**brin'y**, **-i-er**, **-i-est**, *adj.*

bring (brinj) *vt.* brought, bring'ing [OE *bringan*] 1 to carry or lead "here" or to a place where the speaker will be 2 to cause to be, happen, appear, have, etc. 3 to lead to an action or belief 4 to sell for —**bring about** to cause —**bring**

forth to give birth to; produce —bring off to accomplish —bring out 1 to reveal 2 to offer (a play, book, etc.) to the public —bring up 1 to rear (children) 2 to introduce, as into discussion
brink (brɪŋk) *n.* [\langle MLowG or Dan, shore] the edge, esp. at the top of a steep place; verge

brink'man-ship' (-mən ship') *n.* the policy of pursuing a risky course of action to the brink of disaster: also **brinks'man-ship'**

bri-oché (brē ōsh') *n.* [Fr] a light, rich roll made with flour, butter, eggs, and yeast

bri-quette or **bri-quet** (bri ket') *n.* [Fr \langle *brique*, brick] a small block of charcoal, coal dust, etc., used for fuel or kindling

Bris-bane (briz'bān', -bən) seaport in E Australia: pop. 1,455,000

brisk (brɪsk) *adj.* [\langle ? Fr *brusque*, brusque] 1 quick in manner; energetic 2 keen, bracing, etc. —**brisk'ly** *adv.* —**brisk'ness** *n.*

bris-ket (brɪs'kit) *n.* [ME *brusket*] meat cut from the breast of an animal

bris-ling (brɪs'liŋ) *n.* [\langle Dan *bretling*] SPRAT

bris-tle (brɪs'əl) *n.* [\langle OE *byrst*] 1 any short, stiff hair 2 such a hair, or a piece like it, in a brush —*vi.* -tled, -tling 1 to be stiff and erect 2 to have the bristles become erect 3 to stiffen with anger 4 to be thickly covered (*with*) —**bris'tly** (-lē), -tli-er, -tli-est, *adj.*

bris'tle-cone' pine a Rocky Mountain pine tree of the W U.S.

Bris-tol (brɪs'təl) seaport in SW England: county district pop. 376,000

Brit *abbrev.* British

Brit-ain (brɪt'n) GREAT BRITAIN

britch-es (brɪtʃ'ɪz) *pl.n.* [Inf.] BREECHES (sense 2)

Brit-i-cism (brɪt'ə .sɪz'əm) *n.* a word or idiom peculiar to British English

Brit-ish (brɪt'ɪʃ) *adj.* of Great Britain or its people, language, etc. —**the British** the people of Great Britain

British Columbia province of SW Canada: 367,671 sq. mi.; pop. 3,725,000; cap. Victoria: abbrev. BC

British Commonwealth (of Nations) *former name for* THE COMMONWEALTH

British Isles group of islands including Great Britain, Ireland, etc.

British thermal unit a unit of heat equal to about 252 calories

Brit-on (brɪt'n) *n.* 1 a member of an early Celtic people of S Britain 2 a person born or living in Great Britain, esp. in England

brit-tle (brɪt'l) *adj.* [\langle OE *breotan*, to break] easily broken or shattered —*n.* a brittle, crunchy candy with nuts in it —**brit'tle-ness** *n.*

broach (brōch) *n.* [\langle ML *brocca*, a spike] a tapering bit for boring holes —*vt.* 1 to make a hole in so as to let out liquid 2 to ream with a broach 3 to start a discussion of

broad (brōd) *adj.* [OE *brad*] 1 of large extent from side to side; wide 2 extending about; full [*broad daylight*] 3 obvi-

ous [*a broad hint*] 4 tolerant; liberal [*a broad view*] 5 wide in range [*a broad variety*] 6 not detailed; general [*in broad outline*] —**broad'ly** *adv.* —**broad'ness** *n.*

broad'band' *adj.* designating cable, communication devices, etc. allowing the transmission of much data at high speeds

broad'-based' *adj.* comprehensive or extensive

broad'cast' (-kast') *vt., vi.* -cast' or -cast'ed, -cast'ing 1 to scatter or spread widely 2 to transmit by radio or TV —*adj.* of or for radio or TV broadcasting —*n.* a radio or TV program —*adv.* far and wide —**broad'cast'er** *n.*

broad'cloth' *n.* a fine, smooth woolen, cotton, or silk cloth

broad'en *vt., vi.* to widen

broad jump *former name for* LONG JUMP

broad'loom' *adj.* woven on a wide loom

broad'-mind'ed *adj.* tolerant of unconventional opinions and behavior; liberal —**broad'-mind'ed-ly** *adv.* —**broad'-mind'ed-ness** *n.*

broad'side' *n.* 1 the firing of all guns on one side of a warship 2 a vigorous attack in words —*adv.* 1 with the side facing 2 in the side [*hit broadside*] 3 indiscriminately

broad'-spec'trum *adj.* effective against a wide range of germs

broad'sword' *n.* a broad-bladed sword for slashing

Broad-way (brōd'wā') street in New York City, with many theaters, etc.

bro-cade (brō kād') *n.* [\langle Sp \langle It *broccare*, embroider] a rich cloth with a raised design woven into it —*vt.* -cad'ed, -cad'ing to weave a raised design into (cloth)

broc-co-li (brāk'ə lē) *n.* [It \langle ML *brocca*, a spike] a plant related to the cauliflower but bearing tender shoots with greenish buds

bro-chette (brō shet') *n.* [Fr] a skewer for broiling chunks of meat, etc.

bro-chure (brō shoer') *n.* [Fr \langle *brocher*, to stitch] a pamphlet

bro-gan (brō'gən) *n.* [Ir] a heavy work shoe, fitting high on the ankle

brogue¹ (brōg) *n.* [\langle ?] a dialectal pronunciation, esp. that of English by the Irish

brogue² (brōg) *n.* [\langle Ir *brōg*, a shoe] a man's heavy oxford shoe

broil (broil) *vt., vi.* [\langle OFr *bruillir*] to cook by exposure to direct heat

broil'er *n.* 1 a pan, grill, etc. for broiling 2 a chicken suitable for broiling

broke (brōk) *vt., vi. pt. of* BREAK —*adj.* [Inf.] without money; bankrupt

bro-ken (brō'kən) *vt., vi. pp. of* BREAK —*adj.* 1 splintered, fractured, etc. 2 not in working order 3 violated [*a broken promise*] 4 ruined 5 interrupted; discontinuous 6 imperfectly spoken 7 tamed —**bro'ken-ly** *adv.* —**bro'ken-ness** *n.*

bro'ken-down' *adj.* 1 sick or worn out

2 out of order; useless

bro'ken-heart'ed *adj.* crushed by sorrow, grief, etc.

bro-ker (brō'kər) *n.* [*<* OFr *brokier*, to tap; orig. sense "wine dealer"] 1 a person hired as an agent in negotiating contracts, buying and selling, etc. 2 STOCKBROKER —*vt., vi.* 1 to act as a broker (for) 2 to negotiate

bro'ker-age *n.* 1 the business or office of a broker 2 a broker's fee

bro-mide (brō'mīd') *n.* 1 a compound of bromine with another element or a radical 2 potassium bromide, used as a sedative 3 a trite saying

bro-mid'ic (-mid'ik) *adj.* trite or dull

bro-mine (brō'mēn') *n.* [*<* Gr *brōmos*, stench] a chemical element, a reddish-brown, corrosive liquid

bron-chi (brän'kī) *pl.n., sing. -chus* (-kəs) [*<* Gr *bronchos*, windpipe] the two main branches of the windpipe — **bron'chi-al** (-kē əl) *adj.*

bron-chi'tis (-kit'is) *n.* an inflammation of the bronchial tubes

bron-co (brän'kō) *n., pl. -cos* [Sp, rough] a wild or only partly tamed horse or pony of the W U.S.: also **bron'cho** *n., pl. -chos*

bron'co-bust'er *n.* [Inf.] a tamer of broncos — **bron'co-bust'ing** *n.*

Bron-të (brän'të) 1 Charlotte (shär'let) 1816-55; Eng. novelist 2 Em-ily' (em'ə lē) 1818-48; Eng. novelist: sister of Charlotte

bron-to-saur (brän'tō sôr', -tə-) *n.* [*<* Gr *brontē*, thunder + *sauros*, lizard] APATOSAURUS: also **bron'to-saur'us**

Bronx (bränks) borough of New York City: pop. 1,204,000: used with *the*

bronze (bränz) *n.* [Fr, prob. ult. *<* Pers *biring*, copper] 1 an alloy of copper and tin 2 a reddish-brown color —*adj.* of or like bronze —*vt.* **bronzed**, **bronz'ing** [Fr *bronzer* *<* the *n.*] to make bronze in color

brooch (brōch, brōoch) *n.* [see BROACH] a large ornamental pin with a clasp

brood (brōd) *n.* [OE *brod*] 1 a group of birds hatched at one time 2 the children in a family —*vi.* 1 to sit on and hatch eggs 2 to worry: often with *on*, *over*, or *about*

brood'er *n.* 1 one that broods 2 a heated shelter for raising fowl

brood'mare' *n.* a mare kept for breeding

brook¹ (brook) *n.* [*<* OE *broc*] a small stream

brook² (brook) *vt.* [OE *brucan*, to use] to put up with; endure

Brook-lyn (brook'lən) borough of New York City: pop. 2,301,000

broom (brōm, broom) *n.* [OE *brom*, brushwood] 1 a flowering shrub of the pea family 2 a bundle of fibers or straws fastened to a long handle (**broom'stick'**), used for sweeping

Bros or **bro**s *abbrev.* brothers

broth (brôth) *n.* [OE] a thin soup made by boiling meat, etc. in water

broth-el (bräth'əl) *n.* [*<* OE *broethan*, go

to ruin] a house of prostitution

broth-er (bruth'ər) *n., pl. -ers* or **breth'ren** [OE *brothor*] 1 a male related to one by having the same parents 2 a friend who is like a brother 3 a fellow member of the same race, church, profession, etc. 4 [often B-] a lay member of a men's religious order

broth'er-hood' *n.* 1 the state of being brothers 2 an association of men united in some interest, work, etc. 3 a feeling of unity among all people

broth'er-in-law' *n., pl. broth'ers-in-law'* 1 the brother of one's spouse 2 the husband of one's sister 3 the husband of the sister of one's spouse

broth'er-ly *adj.* 1 of or like a brother 2 friendly, kind, loyal, etc.

brought (brôt) *vt. pt. & pp. of BRING*

brou-ha-ha (brō'hä hä') *n.* [Fr] an uproar or commotion

brow (brou) *n.* [OE *bru*] 1 the eyebrow 2 the forehead 3 the edge of a cliff

brow'beat' *vt. -beat', -beat'en, -beat'ing* to intimidate with harsh, stern looks and talk; bully

brown (broun) *adj.* [OE *brun*] 1 having the color of chocolate, a mixture of red, black, and yellow 2 tanned; dark-skinned —*n.* brown color —*vt., vi.* to make or become brown —**brown'ish** *adj.*

brown'-bag' *vt., vi. -bagged', -bag'ing* to carry (one's lunch) to work or school, as in a brown paper bag

brown-ie (broun'ē) *n.* 1 a small, helpful elf 2 a small square cut from a flat chocolate cake

Brown-ing (broun'in), **Rob-ert** (răb'ərt) 1812-89; Eng. poet

brown'out' *n.* a dimming of lights in a city, as during an electric power shortage

brown rice rice that has not had its brown outer coating removed

brown'stone' *n.* a reddish-brown sandstone, used for building

brown-study deep thought; reverie

brown sugar sugar whose crystals retain a brown coating of syrup

browse (brōuz) *n.* [*<* OS *brustian*, to sprout] leaves, shoots, etc. which animals feed on —*vt., vi.* **browsed**, **brows'ing** 1 to nibble at (leaves, shoots, etc.) 2 to examine (a book, articles for sale, etc.) in a casual way

brows'er *n.* 1 one that browses 2 software for gaining access to the World Wide Web

bru-in (brō'in) *n.* [Du, brown] a bear

bruise (brōoz) *vt.* **bruised**, **bruis'ing** [*<* OE *brysan*, crush] 1 to injure and discolor (body tissue) without breaking the skin 2 to injure the surface of, causing spoilage, denting, etc. 3 to hurt (the feelings, spirit, etc.) —*vi.* to be or become bruised —*n.* a bruised area, as of tissue

bruis'er *n.* [Inf.] a strong, pugnacious man

bruit (brōot) *vt.* [*<* OFr, noise, rumor] to spread (*about*) by rumor

brunch (brunch) *n.* a combined breakfast and lunch —*vi.* to eat brunch

Bru·nei (brōō nī') country on the N coast of Borneo: 2,226 sq. mi.; pop. 261,000

bru·net (brōō net') *adj.* [*< OFr, dim. of brun, brown*] having black or dark-brown hair, often with dark eyes and complexion —*n.* a brunet person

bru·nette' (-net') *adj.* BRUNET —*n.* a brunette woman or girl

Bruns·wick (brunz'wik) city in NC Germany: pop. 258,000

brunt (brunt) *n.* [*ME bront*] 1 the shock (of an attack) or impact (of a blow) 2 the hardest part

brush¹ (brush) *n.* [*< OFr broce, bush*] 1 BRUSHWOOD 2 sparsely settled country 3 a device for cleaning, painting, etc., having bristles, wires, etc. fastened into a back 4 a brushing 5 a light, grazing stroke 6 a bushy tail, as of a fox —*vt.* 1 to clean, paint, etc. with a brush 2 to apply, remove, etc. as with a brush 3 to touch or graze in passing —*vi.* to graze past something —**brush up** to refresh one's memory

brush² (brush) *n.* [*< ME bruschen, 'to rush*] a short, quick fight

brush'off *n.* [Slang] a curt dismissal, esp. in the phrase give (or get) the brushoff

brush'wood' *n.* 1 chopped-off tree branches 2 underbrush

brusque (brusk) *adj.* [*Fr < ML bruscus, brushwood*] rough and abrupt in manner or speech; curt: also **brusk** —**brusque'ly** *adv.* —**brusque'ness** *n.*

Brus·sels (brus'alz) capital of Belgium: pop. 952,000



BRUSSELS SPROUT

Brussels sprout 1 often Brussels sprouts a plant that bears small cabbage-like heads on an erect stem 2 one of its edible heads

bru·tal (brōōt'l) *adj.* 1 like a brute; very savage, cruel, etc. 2 very harsh —**bru'tal·ly** *adv.*

bru·tal·i·ty (brōō tal'ə tē) *n.* 1 a being brutal 2 *pl.* -ties a brutal act

bru·tal·ize (brōōt'l iz') *vt.* -ized', -iz'ing 1 to make brutal 2 to treat in a brutal way —**bru'tal·i·za'tion** *n.*

brute (brōōt) *adj.* [*< L brutus, irrational*] of or like an animal; specif., savage, stupid, etc. —*n.* 1 an animal 2 a brutal person —**brut'ish** *adj.* —**brut'ish·ly** *adv.*

bs *abbrev.* bill of sale

BS *abbrev.* Bachelor of Science: also B.S.

Btu *abbrev.* British thermal unit(s): also BTU or btu

bu *abbrev.* bushel(s)

bub·ble (bub'al) *n.* [*echoic*] 1 a film of liquid forming a ball around air or gas 2 a tiny ball of air or gas in a liquid or solid 3 a transparent dome 4 a plausible scheme that proves worthless —*vi.* -bled, -bling 1 to rise in bubbles; boil 2 to make a gurgling sound —**on the bubble** with the outcome uncertain but already being determined —**bub'bly**, -bli·er, -bli·est, *adj.*

bubble gum a kind of chewing gum that can be blown into large bubbles

bub'ble·head' *n.* a person who is silly, ignorant, etc.

Bubble Wrap *trademark* for plastic packaging material with air bubbles — [b- w-] such packaging material

bu·bo (byōō'bō') *n., pl.* -boes' [*< Gr boubōn, groin*] an inflamed swelling of a lymph node, esp. in the armpit or groin

bu·bon'ic plague (-bän'ik) a contagious disease characterized by buboes, fever, and delirium

buc·ca·neer (buk'ə nir') *n.* [*< Fr boucanier*] a pirate

Bu·chan·an (byōō kan'an), James (jāmz) 1791-1868; 15th president of the U.S. (1857-61)

Bu·cha·rest (bōō'kə rest') capital of Romania: pop. 1,990,000

buck¹ (buk) *n.* [*OE bucca, male goat*] 1 a male deer, goat, etc.: see DOE 2 the act of bucking 3 BUCKSKIN 4 [*Inf.*] a bold, vigorous young man —*vi.* 1 to rear upward quickly, as to throw off a rider: said of a horse 2 [*Inf.*] to resist something as if plunging against it —*vt.* 1 to dislodge or throw by bucking 2 [*Inf.*] to resist stubbornly —**buck for** [Slang] to work eagerly for (a promotion, etc.) —**buck up** [*Inf.*] to cheer up

buck² (buk) *n.* [*< ?*] [Slang] a dollar —**pass the buck** [*Inf.*] to try to shift blame or responsibility onto another person

buck'board' *n.* [*BUCK*¹, *vi.* + BOARD] an open carriage whose floorboards rest directly on the axles

buck·et (buk'it) *n.* [*< OE buc, pitcher*] 1 a cylindrical container with a curved handle, for carrying water, etc.; pail 2 the amount held by a bucket: also **buck'et·ful'**, *pl.* -fuls' 3 a thing like a bucket, as a scoop on a steam shovel —**kick the bucket** [Slang] to die

bucket seat a single contoured seat with a movable back, as in sports cars

buck·eye (buk'ī') *n.* [*BUCK*¹ + EYE < the appearance of the seed] 1 a horse chestnut with large capsules enclosing shiny brown seeds 2 the seed

buck·le¹ (buk'al) *n.* [*< L buccula, cheek strap of a helmet*] a clasp for fastening a strap, belt, etc. —*vt., vi.* -led, -ling to fasten with a buckle —**buckle down** to apply oneself energetically

buck·le² (buk'al) *vt., vi.* -led, -ling [*prob. infl. by OFr bocler, to bulge: see prec.*] to bend or crumple —*n.* a bend, bulge,

etc.

buck·ler (buk'lər) *n.* [*< OFr bocler*] a small, round shield**buck'·pass'er** *n.* [Inf.] one who regularly tries to shift blame or responsibility to someone else —**buck'·pass'ing** *n.***buck·ram** (buk'rəm) *n.* [*? < Bukhara*, city in central Asia] a coarse, stiff cloth used in bookbinding, etc.**buck'saw** *n.* a wood-cutting saw set in a frame**buck'shot** *n.* a large lead shot for shooting deer and other large game**buck'skin** *n.* 1 a soft leather made from the skins of deer or sheep 2 [*pl.*] clothes made of buckskin**buck'tooth** *n., pl. -teeth* a projecting front tooth —**buck'toothed** *adj.***buck'wheat** *n.* [*< OE boc-, beech + WHEAT*] 1 a plant with beechnut-shaped seeds 2 a dark flour made from the seeds**bu·col·ic** (byō käl'ik) *adj.* [*< Gr boukolos, herdsman*] 1 of shepherds; pastoral 2 of country life; rustic —**bu·col'i·cal·ly** *adv.***bud** (bud) *n.* [*ME budde*] 1 a small swelling on a plant, from which a shoot, leaf, or flower develops 2 an early stage of development —*vi.* **bud'ded**, **bud'ding** 1 to put forth buds 2 to begin to develop —*in (the) bud* 1 in a budding condition 2 in an early stage —**bud'like** *adj.***Bu·da·pest** (bōō'də pest') capital of Hungary: pop. 2,104,000**Bud·dha** (bōō'də) religious leader who lived in India 563?-483? B.C.: founder of Buddhism**Bud·dhism** (bōō'diz'əm) *n.* a religion of Asia teaching that by right thinking and self-denial one achieves nirvana, a state of blessedness —**Bud'dhist** *n., adj.***bud·dy** (bud'ē) *n., pl. -dies* [*< ?*] [Inf.] a close friend; comrade**budge** (buj) *vt., vi.* **budged**, **budg'ing** [*< OFr bouger, to move*] to move even a little**budg·er·i·gar** (buj'ər i gār') *n.* [native name] a greenish-yellow Australian parakeet: also [Inf.] **budg'ie****budg·et** (buj'it) *n.* [*< L bulga, bag*] 1 a plan adjusting expenses to income 2 estimated cost of living, operating, etc. 3 amount allotted for a specific use —*vt.* 1 to put on a budget 2 to plan [*budget your time*] —**budg'et·ary** *adj.***Bue·nos Ai·res** (bwā'nəs er'ēz) seaport & capital of Argentina: pop. 2,908,000**buff** (buf) *n.* [*< Fr < It bufalo, buffalo*] 1 a soft, brownish-yellow leather 2 a dull brownish yellow 3 [Inf.] a devotee; fan —*adj.* of the color buff —*vt.* to polish or shine, as with soft leather —*in the buff* naked**buf·fa·lo** (buf'ə lō') *n., pl. -loes', -lo', or -los'* [*It bufalo < Gr bous, ox*] 1 any of various wild oxen, as the water buffalo of India 2 popularly, the American bison —*vt.* **-loed', -lo'ing** [Slang] to baffle, bluff, etc.**Buf·fa·lo** (buf'ə lō') city in W New York,

on Lake Erie: pop. 328,000

Buffalo wings [*after prec.*] [*also b-w-*] spicy fried segments of chicken wings**buff·er**¹ (buf'ər) *n.* [*BUFF, v. + -ER*] 1 one who buffs 2 something used for buffing**buff·er**² (buf'ər) *n.* [*< OFr buffe, a blow*] 1 anything that lessens shock, as of collision 2 a temporary storage area in a computer, for data being transferred to another device**buf·fet**¹ (buf'it) *n.* [*OFr < buffe, a blow*] a blow or shock —*vt.* 1 to punch; hit 2 to thrust about**buf·fet**² (bə fā', bōō-) *n.* [*Fr*] 1 a sideboard 2 a counter or table at which guests, etc. serve themselves food 3 a meal served on such a table, etc.**buf·foon** (bə fōōn') *n.* [*< Fr < It buffare, to jest*] one who is always clowning and trying to be funny; clown —**buf·foon'er·y** *n.* —**buf·foon'ish** *adj.***bug** (bug) *n.* [*prob. < ME bugge: see fol.*] 1 an insect with sucking mouthparts 2 any small arthropod, as a cockroach 3 a defect, as in a machine 4 [Inf.] a germ or virus 5 [Inf.] a hidden microphone —*vt.* **bugged**, **bug'ging** 1 [Inf.] to hide a microphone in (a room, etc.) 2 [Slang] to annoy, anger, etc.**bug'bear** *n.* [*ME bugge, a hobgoblin + BEAR*²] 1 an imaginary evil being 2 a cause of needless fear Also **bug'a·boo'** (-ə bōō') *n., pl. -boos'***bug'-eyed** *adj.* [Slang] with bulging eyes**bug·gy**¹ (bug'ē) *n., pl. -gies* [*< ?*] 1 a light one-horse carriage with one seat 2 BABY CARRIAGE**bug·gy**² (bug'ē) *adj.* **-gi·er, -gi·est** infested with bugs**bu·gle** (byō'gəl) *n.* [*< L buculus, young ox*] a brass instrument like a small trumpet, usually without valves —*vi., vt.* **-gled, -gling** to signal by blowing a bugle —**bu'gler** *n.***build** (bild) *vt.* **built**, **build'ing** [*< OE bold, house*] 1 to make by putting together materials, parts, etc.; construct 2 to establish; base [*build a theory on facts*] 3 to create or develop: often with *up* —*vi.* 1 to put up buildings 2 to grow or intensify: often with *up* —*n.* the way a thing is built or shaped [*a stocky build*] —**build up** to make more attractive, healthy, etc. —**build'er** *n.***build'ing** *n.* 1 anything that is built; structure 2 the work or business of making houses, etc.**build'up** or **build'-up** *n.* [Inf.] 1 praise or favorable publicity 2 a gradual increase or expansion**built** (bilt) *vt., vi. pt. & pp. of BUILD***built'-in** *adj.* 1 made as part of the structure 2 inherent**built'-up** *adj.* 1 made higher, stronger, etc. with added parts 2 having many buildings on it**bulb** (bulb) *n.* [*< Gr bolbos*] 1 an underground bud with roots and a short, scaly stem, as in a lily or onion 2 a tuber or tuberous root resembling a bulb, as in a crocus 3 anything shaped like a bulb [*an electric light bulb*] —

bul'bous *adj.*

Bul-gar-i-a (bəl ger'ē ə, bool-) country in SE Europe: 42,855 sq. mi.; pop. 8,473,000 — **Bul-gar-i-an** *adj., n.*

bulge (bulj) *n.* [*< L bulga, leather bag*] an outward swelling; protuberance — *vi., vt. bulged, bulg'ing* to swell or bend outward — **bulg'y, -i-er, -i-est, adj.**

bu-lim-i-a (byōō lē'mē ə) *n.* [*< Gr bous, ox + limos, hunger*] 1 *Med.* a continuous, abnormal hunger 2 a disorder characterized by eating large quantities of food followed by self-induced vomiting, etc.: also *bulimia nervosa* — **bu-lim'ic** *adj.*

bulk (bulk) *n.* [*< ON bulki, a heap*] 1 size, mass, or volume, esp. if great 2 the main mass; largest part — *vi. to have, or to increase in, size or importance* — **adj.** 1 total; aggregate 2 not put up in individual packages — **bulk'y, -i-er, -i-est, adj.**

bulk-head (bulk'hed') *n.* [*< ON balkr, partition + HEAD*] 1 an upright partition, as in a ship, that is watertight, fireproof, etc. 2 a retaining wall 3 a boxlike structure over an opening

bull¹ (bool) *n.* [*< OE bula, a steer*] 1 the adult male of any bovine animal, as the ox, or of certain other large animals, as the elephant or whale 2 a speculator who buys stocks expecting their prices to rise, or who seeks to bring about such a rise 3 [Slang] insincere talk; nonsense — **adj.** 1 male 2 rising in price

bull² (bool) *n.* [*< LL bulla, a seal*] an official document from the pope

bull'dog' *n.* a short-haired, heavily built dog with a strong stubborn grip — **adj.** like a bulldog; stubborn — **vt. -dogged', -dog'ing** to throw (a steer) by holding its horns and twisting its neck

bull'doze' (-dōz') **vt. -dozed', -doz'ing** [*< bull, a flogging + DOSE*] 1 [Inf.] to force or frighten by threatening; bully 2 to move, make level, etc. with a bulldozer

bull'doz'er *n.* a tractor with a large, shovel-like blade, for pushing earth, debris, etc.

bul-let (bool'it) *n.* [*< L bulla, a knob*] a small, shaped piece of lead, steel, etc., to be shot from a firearm

bul-le-tin (bool'ə tin) *n.* [*< LL bulla, a seal*] 1 a brief statement of the latest news 2 a regular publication, as of an organization

bulletin board a board or wall area on which bulletins, notices, etc. are put up

bul'let-proof *adj.* that bullets cannot pierce — **vt. to make bulletproof**

bull'fight' *n.* a spectacle in which a bull is first provoked in various ways and then killed with the thrust of a sword by a matador — **bull'fight'er** *n.* — **bull'fight'ing** *n.*

bull'frog' *n.* a large North American frog with a deep, loud croak

bull'head'ed *adj.* blindly stubborn; headstrong — **bull'head'ed-ness** *n.*

bull'horn' *n.* a portable electronic voice amplifier

bul-lion (bool'yən) *n.* [*< OFr billon, small coin*] ingots, bars, etc. of gold or silver

bull-ish (bool'ish) *adj.* 1 of or like a bull 2 rising, or causing a rise, in prices on the stock exchange 3 optimistic

bull'ock (-ək) *n.* [*< OE dim. of bula, steer*] a castrated bull; steer

bull'pen' *n.* 1 [Inf.] a temporary detention room in a jail 2 *Baseball* a) a practice area for relief pitchers b) the relief pitchers of one team

bull's'-eye' *n.* 1 the central mark of a target 2 a direct hit

bul-ly (bool'ē) *n., pl. -lies* [*< MHG buole, lover; later infl. by BULL¹*] a person who hurts or browbeats those who are weaker — **vt. -lied, -ly-ing** to behave as a bully toward — **adj., interj.** [Inf.] fine; good

bul-rush (bool'rush') *n.* [*< ME bol, stem + rusche, a rush*] a tall plant of the sedge family, found in wet places

bul-wark (bool'wərk) *n.* [MDu *bolwerc*] 1 a defensive wall; rampart 2 a defense; protection 3 [usually *pl.*] a ship's side above the deck

bum (bum) *n.* [prob. *< Ger bummeln, go slowly*] [Inf.] 1 a vagrant 2 a loafer 3 a devotee, as of golf or skiing — **vi. bummed, bum'ming** [Inf.] to live as a bum or by begging — **vt.** [Slang] to get by begging [to *bum* a cigarette] — **adj. bum'mer, bum'mest** [Slang] 1 poor in quality 2 false 3 lame — **bum some-one out** [Slang] to annoy, depress, bore, etc. someone — **on the bum** [Inf.] 1 living as a vagrant 2 out of repair

bum-ble (bum'bəl) *vi. -bled, -bling* to blunder — **vt. to bungle or botch** — **bum'bler** *n.*

bum'ble-bee' *n.* [*< ME bomben, to buzz*] a large, hairy, yellow-and-black bee

bummed *adj.* [*< BUM*] [Slang] depressed, upset, annoyed, etc.: usually with *out*

bum-mer (bum'ər) *n.* [Slang] an unpleasant experience

bump (bump) **vt., vi.** [echoic] to collide (with) or hit (against) with a jolt — *n.* 1 a knock; light jolt 2 a swelling, esp. one caused by a blow — **bump into** [Inf.] to meet unexpectedly — **bump off** [Slang] to murder — **bump'y, -i-er, -i-est, adj.**

bump'er¹ *n.* a device to absorb the shock of a collision; esp., either of the bars at the front and rear of a motor vehicle

bump'er² *adj.* [prob. *< obs. bombard, liquor jug*] unusually abundant [a *bumper crop*]

bumper sticker a gummed paper with a printed slogan, witticism, etc., for sticking on a vehicle's bumper

bump-kin (bump'kin) *n.* [prob. *< MDu bommekijn, small cask*] an awkward or simple person from the country

bump'tious (-shəs) *adj.* [prob. *< BUMP*] disagreeably conceited or forward — **bump'tious-ly** *adv.* — **bump'tious-ness** *n.*

bun (bun) *n.* [prob. *< OFr buigne, a swelling*] 1 a small roll made of bread dough, sometimes sweetened 2 hair worn in a roll or knot

bunch (bunch) *n.* [*< Fl boudje*, little bundle] 1 a cluster of similar things growing or grouped together 2 [*Inf.*] a group of people —*vt., vi.* to collect into a bunch —*bunch'y, -i-er, -i-est, adj.*

bun-combe (bun'kəm) *n.* [*after Buncombe county, NC*] [*Inf.*] BUNKUM

bun-dle (bun'dəl) *n.* [*MDu bondel*] 1 a number of things bound together 2 a package 3 a bunch; collection —*vt. -dled, -dling* 1 to make into a bundle 2 to hustle (*away, off, out, or into*) —*bun-dle up* to dress warmly

Bundt (bunt, boont) *trademark* for a deep cake pan with a tube in the center and grooved sides —*adj.* [*often b-*] designating or baked in such a pan

bung (bun) *n.* [*< MDu bongel*] a stopper for a bung-hole

bun-ga-low (bun'gə lō') *n.* [*< Hindi bānglā*, thatched house] a small house or cottage, usually of one story and an attic

bun-gee cord (bun'jē) elasticized cord used as to secure luggage or to hold persons leaping for sport from great heights

bung-hole (bun'hōl') *n.* a hole in a barrel or keg for pouring in or drawing out liquid

bun-gle (bun'gəl) *vt., vi. -gled, -gling* [*< ?*] to do or make (something) badly or clumsily —*n.* 1 a bungling 2 a bungled piece of work —*bun'gler n.* —*bung'ling-ly adv.*

bun-ion (bun'yən) *n.* [*< OFr: see BUN*] an inflamed swelling at the base of the big toe

bunk¹ (bunjk) *n.* [*prob. < Scand cognate of BENCH*] 1 a shelflike bed built against a wall, as in a ship 2 [*Inf.*] any sleeping place —*vi.* to sleep in a bunk —*vt.* to provide a sleeping place for

bunk² (bunjk) *n.* [*Slang*] short for BUNKUM

bunk'er *n.* [*Scot < ?*] 1 a large bin, as for a ship's fuel 2 an underground fortification 3 a sand trap or other area serving as a hazard on a golf course

bunk'house' *n.* a barracks for ranch hands

bun-kum (bun'kəm) *n.* [*respelling of BUNCOMBE*] [*Inf.*] empty, insincere talk

bun-ny (bun'ē) *n., pl. -nies* [*dim. of dial. bun*] a rabbit: a child's term

buns (bunz) *pl.n.* [*Slang*] the human buttocks

Bun-sen burner (bun'sən) [*after R. W. Bunsen*, 19th-c. Ger chemist] a small tubular gas burner that produces a hot, blue flame

bunt (bunt) *vt., vi.* [*< ? ME bounten*, to return] *Baseball* to bat (a pitch) lightly without swinging so that it rolls within the infield —*n.* a bunted ball

bun-ting¹ (bun'tin) *n.* [*< ? ME bonten*, sift] 1 a thin cloth for making flags, etc. 2 decorative flags

bun-ting² (bun'tin) *n.* [*ME*] a small, brightly colored, short-billed bird

buoy (bōō'ē, bōi) *n.* [*< L boia*, fetter] 1 a floating object anchored in water to

warn of a hazard, etc. 2 a ring-shaped life preserver —*vt.* [*< Sp boyar*, to float] 1 to mark with a buoy 2 to keep afloat 3 to lift up in spirits

buoy-ant (bōiy'ənt; also bōō'yənt) *adj.* [*< ? Sp boyar*, to float] 1 having the ability or tendency to float 2 cheerful —*buoy'an-cy n.*

bur (bər) *n.* [*< Scand*] 1 a rough, prickly seed capsule of certain plants 2 a plant with burs 3 BURR¹ & BURR²

Bur *abbrev.* Bureau

bur-den¹ (bər'd'n) *n.* [*< OE byrthen*] 1 anything that is carried; load 2 heavy load, as of work, care, or duty 3 the carrying capacity of a ship —*vt.* to put a burden on; oppress —*bur'den-some adj.*

bur-den² (bər'd'n) *n.* [*< OFr bourdon*, a humming] 1 a chorus or refrain of a song 2 a repeated, central idea; theme

bur-dock (bər'däk') *n.* [*BUR + DOCK*³] a plant with large leaves and purple-flowered heads with prickles

bu-reau (byoor'ō) *n., pl. -reaus or -reaux* (-ōz) [*Fr, desk*] 1 a chest of drawers, as for clothing 2 an agency 3 a government department

bu-reauc-ra-cy (byoo rä'krə sē) *n., pl. -cies* 1 government by departmental officials following an inflexible routine 2 the officials collectively 3 inflexible governmental routine 4 the concentration of authority in administrative bureaus —*bu-reau-crat* (byoor'ə krat') *n.* —*bu'reau-crat'ic adj.* —*bu'reau-crat'i-cal-ly adv.*

bu-reauc'ra-tize' (-tiz') *vt., vi. -tized', -tiz'ing* to develop into a bureaucracy —*bu-reauc'ra-ti-za'tion n.*

burg (bɜrg) *n.* [*Inf.*] a quiet or dull town

bur-geon (bər'jən) *vi.* [*< OFr burjon*, a bud] 1 to put forth buds, etc. 2 to grow or develop rapidly

bur-ger (bər'gər) *n.* [*Inf.*] a hamburger, cheeseburger, etc.

-bur-ger (bər'gər) *combining form* sandwich of ground meat, etc. [*hamburger*]

burgh (bɜrg; *Scot* bu'rə) *n.* [*Scot var. of BOROUGH*] 1 [*Brit.*] a borough 2 in Scotland, a chartered town

burgh-er (bər'gər) *n.* a citizen of a town

bur-glar (bər'glər) *n.* [*< OFr burgeor*] one who commits burglary

bur'glar-ize' *vt. -ized', -iz'ing* to commit burglary in

bur'gla-ry (-glə rē) *n., pl. -ries* the act of breaking into a building to commit a felony, as theft, or a misdemeanor

bur-gle (bər'gəl) *vt., vi. -gled, -gling* [*Inf.*] to burglarize or commit burglary

bur-go-mas-ter (bər'gō mas'tər, -gə-) *n.* [*< MDu burg*, town + *meester*, master] the mayor of a town in the Netherlands, Flanders, Austria, or Germany

Bur-gun-dy (bər'gən dē) *n., pl. -dies* [*often b-*] a red or white wine, typically dry, orig. made in Burgundy, a region in E France —*Bur-gun-di-an* (bər gun'dē ən) *adj., n.*

bur-i-al (ber'ē əl) *n.* the burying of a dead body in a grave, tomb, etc.

Bur-ki-na Fa-so (boor kē'nə fā'sō) *coun-try in W Africa*: 105,839 sq. mi.; pop. 7,967,000

burl (burl) *n.* [*< OFr bourle, ends of threads*] 1 a knot in thread or yarn that makes cloth look nubby 2 a knot on some tree trunks 3 veneer from wood with burls —**burled** *adj.*

bur-lap (burlap) *n.* [*< ? ME borel*] a coarse cloth of jute or hemp

bur-lesque (burlask) *n.* [*Fr < It burla, a jest*] 1 any broadly comic or satirical imitation; parody 2 a sort of vaudeville with low comedy, striptease acts, etc. —*vt., vi.* -lesqued', -lesqu'ing to imitate comically

bur-ley (burlē) *n.* [*< ?*] [*also B-*] a thin-leaved, light-colored tobacco grown in Kentucky, etc.

bur-ly (burlē) *adj.* -li-er, -li-est [*ME borlich, excellent*] 1 big and strong 2 hearty in manner

Bur-ma (burlmə) *former name for MYANMAR* —**Bur-mese** (burlmēz'), *pl. -mese', adj., n.*

burn (burn) *vt.* burned or burnt, burn'ing [*< OE beornan, to be on fire*] 1 to set on fire, as in order to produce heat, light, or power 2 to destroy by fire 3 to injure or damage by fire, acid, etc. 4 to consume as fuel 5 to sunburn 6 to cause (a hole, etc.) as by fire 7 to cause a sensation of heat in 8 to transform (body fat, etc.) into energy 9 [*Slang*] to cheat or trick [*I got burned in that deal*] —*vi.* 1 to be on fire 2 to give out light or heat 3 to be destroyed or injured by fire or heat 4 to feel hot 5 to be excited —*n.* 1 an injury or damage caused by fire, heat, etc. 2 the process or result of burning —**burn down** to burn to the ground —**burn out** to exhaust or become exhausted from overwork, etc. —**burn up** [*Slang*] to make or become angry —**burn'a-ble** *adj., n.*

burn'er *n.* the part of a stove, furnace, etc. from which the flame comes

bur-nish (burnish) *vt., vi.* [*< OFr brunir, make brown*] to make or become shiny by rubbing —*n.* a gloss or polish —**bur'nish-er** *n.*

bur-noose (burnūs) *n.* [*< Ar burnus*] a hooded cloak worn by Arabs

burn-out (burn'out) *n.* 1 the point at which a rocket's fuel is burned up and the rocket enters free flight or is jet-tisoned 2 a state of emotional exhaustion from mental stress

Burns (burnz), **Robert** (rā'bərt) 1759-96; Scot. poet

burnt (burnt) *vt., vi. alt. pt. & pp. of BURN.*

burp (burp) *n., vi.* [*echoic*] belch —*vt.* to cause (a baby) to belch

burr¹ (bur) *n.* [*var. of BUR*] 1 a bur 2 a rough edge left on metal, etc. by cutting or drilling —*vt.* to form a rough edge on

burr² (bur) *n.* [*prob. echoic*] 1 the trilling of r, as in Scottish speech 2 a whir

bur-ri-to (bā rē'tō) *n., pl. -tos* [*MexSp < Sp, little burro*] a Mexican dish consisting of a flour tortilla wrapped around a filling of meat, cheese, fried beans, etc.

bur-ro (bur'ō) *n., pl. -ros* [*Sp < LL burricus, small horse*] a donkey

bur-row (bur'ō) *n.* [*see BOROUGH*] 1 a

hole dug in the ground by an animal 2 any similar hole —*vi.* 1 to make a burrow 2 to live or hide in a burrow 3 to search, as if by digging —*vt.* 1 to make burrows in 2 to make by burrowing

bur-sa (bursə) *n., pl. -sae (-sē) or -sas* [*< Gr byrsa, a hide*] *Anat.* a sac or cavity with a lubricating fluid, as between a tendon and bone

bur-sar (bursər) *n.* [*< ML bursa, a purse*] a treasurer, as of a college

bur-si-tis (bursit'is) *n.* [*< BURSA + -ITIS*] inflammation of a bursa

burst (burst) *vi.* burst, burst'ing [*OE berstan*] 1 to come apart suddenly and violently; explode 2 to give sudden vent; break (*into* tears, etc.) 3 to appear, start, etc. suddenly 4 *a)* to be as full or crowded as possible *b)* to be filled (*with* pride, etc.) —*vt.* to cause to burst —*n.* 1 a bursting 2 a break or rupture 3 a sudden action or effort; spurt 4 a volley of shots

Bu-run-di (boō roon'dē, -run'-) country in EC Africa, east of Democratic Republic of the Congo: 10,759 sq. mi.; pop. 5,293,000

bur-y (ber'ē) *vt. -ied, -y-ing* [*OE byrgan*] 1 to put (a dead body) into the earth, a tomb, etc. 2 to hide or cover 3 to put away 4 to immerse [*to bury oneself in work*]

bus (bus) *n., pl. bus'es or bus'ses* [*< (OMNI)BUS*] a large motor coach for many passengers, usually following a regular route —*vt.* bused or bussed, bus'ing or bus'ing 1 to transport by bus 2 to clear dirty dishes from —*vi.* 1 to go by bus 2 to do the work of a bus-boy

bus'boy *n.* a restaurant worker who clears tables, brings water, etc.

bus-by (buz'bē) *n., pl. -bies* [*prob. < name Busby*] a tall fur hat worn with a full-dress uniform

bush (boosh) *n.* [*OE busc*] 1 a low woody plant with spreading branches; shrub 2 anything like a bush 3 uncleared land —*vi.* to grow thickly —**beat around the bush** to talk around a subject without getting to the point

Bush (boosh) 1 **George** (Herbert Walker) 1924- ; 41st president of the U.S. (1989-93) 2 **George W(alker)** 1946- ; 43d president of the U.S. (2001-); son of George

bushed (boosht) *adj.* [*Inf.*] very tired; exhausted

bush-el (boosh'al) *n.* [*< OFr boisse, grain measure*] a dry measure equal to 4 pecks or 32 quarts

bush-ing (boosh'in) *n.* [*< MDu busse, box*] a removable metal lining for reducing friction on moving parts

bush league [*Slang*] a small or second-rate minor league, etc. —**bush'-league'** *adj.* —**bush leaguer**

bush'man (-mən) *n., pl. -men (-mən)* one who lives in the Australian bush

bush'mas'ter *n.* a large poisonous snake of Central and South America

bush'whack' *vt., vi.* to ambush —**bush'whack'er** *n.*

bush'y *adj.* -i-er, -i-est thick and spreading out like a bush

bush'y-tailed' *adj.* used mainly in bright-eyed and bushy-tailed, alert, eager, etc.

bus-i-ly (biz'ə lē) *adv.* in a busy manner

busi-ness (biz'nis) *n.* [OE *bisignes*: see BUSY] 1 one's work; occupation 2 a special task, duty, etc. 3 rightful concern [no one's *business* but his own] 4 a matter or activity 5 commerce; trade 6 a commercial or industrial establishment —*adj.* of or for business —*mean business* [Inf.] to be in earnest

business administration college studies covering finance, management, etc. to prepare for a business career

business agent a representative of a labor union local

business card a small card identifying one's business connection, given to clients, etc.

business college a school of typing, bookkeeping, etc.

busi'ness-like' *adj.* efficient, methodical, systematic, etc.

busi'ness-man' *n.*, *pl.* -men' (-men') a man in business, esp. as an owner — **busi'ness-wom'an**, *pl.* -wom'en, *fem.n.*

business school a school offering graduate courses in business administration

bus-ing or **bus-sing** (bus'in) *n.* the transporting of children by bus to a school outside of their neighborhood, esp. so as to desegregate the school

bus-kin (bus'kin) *n.* [? < MDu *brosekin*, small boot] 1 a high, laced boot worn in ancient tragedy 2 tragic drama

buss (bus) *n.*, *vt.*, *vi.* [prob. of echoic orig.] [Now Chiefly Dial.] kiss

bust¹ (bust) *n.* [< It *busto*] 1 a sculpture of a person's head and shoulders 2 a woman's bosom

bust² (bust) [Inf.] *vt.*, *vi.* [< BURST] 1 to burst or break 2 to make or become bankrupt or demoted 3 to hit 4 to arrest —*n.* 1 a failure 2 financial collapse 3 a punch 4 a spree 5 an arrest —**bust'ed** *adj.*

bus-tle¹ (bus'al) *vi.*, *vt.* -tled, -tling [< ME *busken*, prepare] to hurry busily — *n.* busy and noisy activity

bus-tle² (bus'al) *n.* [< ?] a padding formerly worn to fill out the upper back of a woman's skirt

bus-y (biz'ē) *adj.* -i-er, -i-est [OE *bisig*] 1 active; at work 2 full of activity 3 in use, as a telephone 4 too detailed —*vt.* **bus'ied**, **bus'y-ing** to make or keep busy —**bus'y-ness** *n.*

bus'y-bod'y *n.*, *pl.* -ies a meddler in the affairs of others

but (but) *prep.* [OE *butan*, without] except; save [nobody went *but* me] — *conj.* 1 yet; still [it's good, *but* not great] 2 on the contrary [I am old, *but* you are young] 3 unless [it never rains *but* it pours] 4 that [I don't doubt *but* you're right] 5 that . . . not [I never gamble *but* I lose] —*adv.* 1 only [if I had *but* known] 2 merely [he is *but* a

child] —*pron.* who . . . not; which . . . not [not a man *but* felt it] —*but for* if it were not for

bu-tane (byōō'tān') *n.* [ult. < L *butyrum*, butter] a hydrocarbon used as a fuel, etc.

butch (booch) *adj.* [< ? fol.] [Slang] masculine: sometimes said of a lesbian —*n.* [Inf.] BUZZ CUT

butch-er (booch'ər) *n.* [< OFr *bouc*, he-goat] 1 one whose work is killing and dressing animals for meat 2 one who cuts meat for sale 3 a brutal killer — *vt.* 1 to kill or dress (animals) for meat 2 to kill brutally or senselessly 3 to botch —**butch'er-y**, *pl.* -ies, *n.*

but-ler (but'lər) *n.* [< OFr *bouteille*, bottle] a manservant, usually the head servant of a household

butt¹ (but) *n.* [< ?] 1 the thick end of anything 2 a stub or stump, as of a cigar 3 a target 4 an object of ridicule 5 [Slang] a cigarette —*vt.*, *vi.* to join end to end

butt² (but) *vt.*, *vi.* [< OFr *buter*, thrust against] 1 to ram with the head 2 to project —*n.* a butting —**butt in** (or into) [Inf.] to mix into (another's business, etc.)

butt³ (but) *n.* [< LL *buttis*, cask] a large cask for wine or beer

butte (byōōt) *n.* [Fr, mound] a steep hill with a flat top, surrounded by a plain

but-ter (but'ər) *n.* [< Gr *bous*, cow + *tyros*, cheese] 1 the solid, yellowish, edible fat that results from churning cream 2 any substance somewhat like butter —*vt.* 1 to spread with butter 2 [Inf.] to flatter: often with *up* —**but'ter-y** *adj.*

butter bean a light-colored bean, as a lima bean or wax bean

but'ter-cup' *n.* a plant with yellow, cup-shaped flowers

but'ter-fat' *n.* the fatty part of milk, from which butter is made

but'ter-fin'gers *n.* [Inf.] one who often fumbles and drops things

but'ter-fly' *n.*, *pl.* -flies' [OE *buttorfleoge*] an insect with a slender body and four broad, usually brightly colored wings

but'ter-milk' *n.* 1 the liquid left after churning butter from milk 2 a drink made from skim milk

but'ter-nut' *n.* 1 a walnut tree of E North America 2 its edible, oily nut

but'ter-scotch' *n.* 1 a hard, sticky candy made with brown sugar, butter, etc. 2 the flavor of this candy 3 a syrup with this flavor

but-tock (but'ək) *n.* [< OE *buttuc*, end] 1 either of the fleshy, rounded parts behind the hips 2 [*pl.*] the rump

but-ton (but'n) *n.* [< OFr *boton*] 1 any small disk or knob used as a fastening, ornament, etc., as on a garment 2 anything small and shaped like a button — *vt.*, *vi.* to fasten with a button or buttons

but-ton-down' *adj.* 1 designating a collar, as on a shirt, fastened down by small buttons 2 conservative, unimaginative, etc.

but·ton·hole *n.* a slit or loop through which a button is inserted —*vt.* -holed', -hol'ing 1 to make buttonholes in 2 to detain and talk to

but·tress (bu'tris) *n.* [see BUTT²] 1 a structure built against a wall to support or reinforce it 2 a support or prop —*vt.* to prop up; bolster

bux·om (buk'səm) *adj.* [ME, humble] having a shapely, full-bosomed figure: said of a woman

buy (bī) *vt.* bought, buy'ing [OE *bycgan*] 1 to get by paying money; purchase 2 to get by an exchange [*buy* victory with human lives] 3 to bribe 4 [Slang] to accept as true [I can't *buy* this excuse] —*n.* 1 anything bought 2 [Inf.] something worth its price —**buy** in [Slang] to pay money so as to participate —**buy** into [Slang] BUY (*vt.* 4) —**buy** off to bribe —**buy** out to buy all the stock, rights, etc. of —**buy** up to buy all that is available of

buy'back *n.* Finance the buying by a corporation of its own stock to reduce the outstanding shares

buy'er *n.* 1 one who buys; consumer 2 one whose work is to buy merchandise for a retail store

buy'out *n.* the outright purchase of a business, as by the employees or management

buzz (buz) *vi.* [echoic] 1 to hum like a bee 2 to gossip 3 to be filled with noisy activity or talk —*vt.* 1 to fly an airplane low over (a building, etc.) 2 to signal with a buzzer —*n.* 1 a sound like a bee's hum 2 [Inf.] BUZZ CUT

buz·zard (buz'ərd) *n.* [< L *buteo*, kind of hawk] 1 a kind of hawk that is slow and heavy in flight 2 TURKEY VULTURE

buzz cut [Inf.] a man's very short haircut

buzz'er *n.* an electrical device that makes a buzzing sound as a signal

buzz saw a saw with teeth around the edge of a large disk fixed on a motor-driven shaft

bx *abbrev.* box

by (bī) *prep.* [OE *be*, *bi*] 1 near; at [*sit by the fire*] 2 *a*) in or during [*to travel by day*] *b*) not later than [*be back by noon*] 3 *a*) through; via [*to Boston by Route 6*] *b*) past; beyond [*he walked right by me*] 4 toward [*east by north-east*] 5 within a distance of [*missed by a foot*] 6 in behalf of [*she did well by me*] 7 through the agency of [*gained by fraud*] 8 according to [*to go by the book*] 9 at the rate of [*getting dark by degrees*] 10 following in series [*march-*

ing two by two] 11 *a*) in or to the amount of [*apples by the peck*] *b*) and in another dimension [*two by four*] *c*) using (the given number) as multiplier or divisor —*adv.* 1 close at hand [*stand by*] 2 away; aside [*to put money by*] 3 past [*she sped by*] 4 at the place specified [*stop by on your way*] —**by** and **by** soon or eventually —**by** and large considering everything —**by** the **by** incidentally

by- *prefix* 1 near 2 secondary; incidental [*byproduct*]

by-and-by (bī'ən bī') *n.* a future time

bye (bī) *n.* [var. of BY] the privilege, granted a contestant in a tournament with an uneven number of participants, of not being paired with another contestant in the first round

bye-bye (bī'bī') *n., interj.* [Inf.] goodbye

by-gone (bī'gôn') *adj.* past; former —*n.* anything gone or past

by'law *n.* [< ME *bi*, village + *laue*, law] any of a set of rules adopted by an organization or assembly for its own meetings or affairs

by'line *n.* a line identifying the writer of a newspaper or magazine article

by'pass *n.* 1 a way, pipe, channel, etc. between two points that avoids or is auxiliary to the main way 2 a surgical operation to allow fluid to pass around a diseased or blocked part or organ —*vt.* 1 to detour 2 to furnish with a bypass 3 to ignore

by'path or **by'-path** *n.* a byway

by'play *n.* action, gestures, etc. going on aside from the main action or conversation

by'prod'uct or **by'-prod'uct** *n.* anything produced in the course of making another thing

By·ron (bī'rən), George Gordon (jôrj gôrd'n) 1788-1824; Eng. poet

by'stand'er *n.* a person who stands near but does not participate

byte (bit) *n.* [arbitrary formation] a string of binary digits (*bits*), usually eight, operated on as a basic unit by a digital computer

by'way *n.* a secondary road or path, esp. one not much used

by'word *n.* 1 a proverb 2 one well-known for some quality 3 an object of scorn or ridicule 4 a favorite word or phrase

Byz·an·tine Empire (biz'ən tēn', -tīn'; bi zan'tin) empire (A.D. 395-1453) in SE Europe & SW Asia

C

c or **C** (sē) *n.*, *pl.* **c's**, **C's** the third letter of the English alphabet

C¹ (sē) *n.* 1 a Roman numeral for 100 2 *Educ.* a grade for average work 3 *Music* the first tone in the scale of C major

C² *abbrev.* 1 carat(s) 2 *Baseball* catcher 3 Catholic 4 Celsius (or centigrade) 5 cent(s) 6 *Sports* center 7 centimeter(s) 8 Central 9 century 10 chapter 11 circa: also *ca* 12 College 13 copyright 14 cup(s) 15 cycle(s) Also, except 3, 4, 8, & 12, *c*

C³ *Chem. symbol* for carbon

Ca *Chem. symbol* for calcium

CA California

cab (kab) *n.* [**<** Fr *cabriole*, a leap] 1 a carriage, esp. one for public hire 2 TAXICAB 3 the place in a truck, crane, etc. where the operator sits —*vi.* **cabbed**, **cab'bing** [*Inf.*] to take or drive a taxicab

ca·bal (kā bāl') *n.* [**<** Fr, *intrigue*] 1 a small group joined in a secret intrigue 2 an intrigue; plot

cab·a·la (kab'ə lə, kā bā'lə) *n.* [**<** Heb *kabala*, tradition] 1 a Jewish mystical movement 2 any esoteric or secret doctrine

ca·bal·le·ro (kab'ə ler'ō, -əl yer'ō) *n.*, *pl.* -ros [**<** Sp] 1 a Spanish gentleman 2 [*Southwest*] a) a horseman b) a lady's escort

ca·ban·a (kā ban'ə, -bā'nə) *n.* [**<** Sp **<** LL *capanna*] 1 a cabin or hut 2 a small bathhouse

cab·a·ret (kab'ə rā') *n.* [**<** Fr, *tavern*] a cafe with musical entertainment

cab·bage (kab'ij) *n.* [**<** OFr *caboche* **<** ?] a vegetable with thick leaves formed into a round head

cab·by or **cab·bie** (kab'ē) *n.*, *pl.* -bies [*Inf.*] one who drives a cab

ca·ber·net (kab'ər nā') *n.* [*also* **C-**] a dry red wine; esp., CABERNET SAUVIGNON

cabernet sau·vi·gnon (sō vē nyōn') [*also* **C-** **S-**] a fragrant, dry red wine

cab·in (kab'in) *n.* [**<** LL *capanna*, hut] 1 a small, crudely or simply built house; hut 2 a room on a ship or boat 3 the space for passengers, crew, or cargo in an aircraft

cab·i·net (kab'ə nit) *n.* [**<** Fr, prob. ult. **<** L *cavea*, cage] 1 a case with drawers or shelves 2 a case holding a TV, radio, etc. 3 [*often* **C-**] a body of official advisors to a chief executive

cab'i·net·mak'er *n.* a maker of fine furniture

cab'i·net·work' *n.* articles made by a cabinetmaker: also **cab'i·net·ry**

cabin fever a condition of increased anxiety caused by being confined or isolated

ca·ble (kā'bəl) *n.* [**<** L *capere*, to take hold] 1 a thick, heavy rope, often of wire strands 2 a bundle of insulated

wires to carry an electric current 3 a cablegram 4 CABLE TV —*vt.* -bled, -bling 1 to fasten with a cable 2 to send a cablegram to —*vi.* to send a cablegram

cable car a car drawn by a moving cable, as up a steep incline

ca'ble·cast' *vt.* -cast', -cast'ing to transmit to receivers by coaxial cable —*n.* a program that is cablecast

ca'ble·gram' *n.* a message sent by undersea cable

cable TV a TV system in which various antennas receive local and distant signals and transmit them by cable to subscribers' receivers

cab·o·chon (kab'ə shān') *n.* [**<** Fr **<** *caboche*, head] any precious stone cut in convex shape

ca·bood·le (kā bōōd'l) *n.* [**<** BOODLE] [*Inf.*] lot; group [the whole *caboodle*]

ca·boose (kā bōōs') *n.* [**<** MDu *kambuiss*, cabin house] the car at the rear of a freight train, used by the crew when eating, sleeping, etc.

ca·ca·o (kā kā'ō, -kā'-) *n.*, *pl.* -os [**<** Sp **<** AmInd (Mexico)] 1 the seed of a tropical American tree from which cocoa and chocolate are made: also **cacao bean** 2 this tree

cache (kash) *n.* [**<** Fr **<** L *cogere*, to collect] 1 a safe place in which stores of food, supplies, etc. are hidden 2 anything so hidden —*vt.* **cached**, **cach'ing** to place in a cache

cache·pot (kash'pāt, -pō') *n.* [**<** Fr **<** *cacher*, to hide] a decorative jar for holding potted plants: also **cache pot**

ca·chet (ka shā') *n.* [**<** Fr] 1 a stamp or official seal, as on a document 2 any sign of official approval, authenticity, superior quality, etc. 3 distinction; prestige

cack·le (kak'al) *vi.* -led, -ling [*echoic*] 1 to make the shrill, broken vocal sounds of a hen 2 to laugh or chatter with similar sounds —*n.* a cackling

ca·coph·o·ny (kā kāf'ə nē) *n.*, *pl.* -nies [**<** Gr *kakos*, bad + *phōnē*, voice] harsh, jarring sound; discord —**ca·coph'o·nous** *adj.*

cac·tus (kak'təs) *n.*, *pl.* -tus·es or -ti' (-tī') [**<** Gr *kaktos*, kind of thistle] any of various desert plants with fleshy stems and spinelike leaves

cad (kad) *n.* [**<** CADET] a man whose behavior is not gentlemanly —**cad'dish** *adj.* —**cad'dish·ly** *adv.* —**cad'dish·ness** *n.*

ca·dav·er (kā dav'ər) *n.* [**<** L, prob. **<** *cadere*, to fall] a corpse, as for dissection

ca·dav'er·ous *adj.* [**<** L] of or like a cadaver; esp., pale, ghastly, etc.

CAD/CAM (kad'kam') *n.* [**<** C(omputer-) A(ided). D(esign) / C(omputer-) A(ided) M(anufacturing)] design and manufacturing by means of a computer system,

as for complex wiring diagrams

cad·die (kad'ē) *n.* [Scot form of Fr *cadet*: see CADET] one who attends a golfer, carrying the clubs, etc. —*vi.* -died, -dying to act as a caddie

cad·dy¹ (kad'ē) *n., pl.* -dies [< Malay *kātī*, unit of weight] a small container for holding or storing

cad·dy² (kad'ē) *n., vi.* CADDIE

-cade (kād) [< (CAVAL)CADE] *suffix* procession, parade [*motorcade*]

ca·dence (kād'ns) *n.* [< L *cadere*, to fall] 1 fall of the voice in speaking 2 any rhythmic flow of sound 3 measured movement, as in marching

ca·den·za (kā den'zə) *n.* [It: see prec.] an elaborate passage for the solo instrument in a concerto

ca·det (kā det') *n.* [Fr < L dim. of *caput*, head] 1 a student in training at an armed forces academy 2 any trainee, as a practice teacher

cadge (kaj) *vt., vi.* cadged, cadg'ing [< ?] to beg or get by begging; sponge — **cadg'er** *n.*

cad·mi·um (kad'mē əm) *n.* [< L *cadmia*, zinc ore (with which it occurs)] a silver-white, metallic chemical element used in alloys, pigments, etc.

ca·dre (kā'drē, -drā; kā'-) *n.* [< Fr < L *quadrum*, a square] a nucleus around which an expanded organization, as a military unit, can be built



CADUCEUS

ca·du·ce·us (kā dōō'sē əs) *n., pl.* -ce-i' (-sē ī') [L] the winged staff of Mercury: now a symbol of the medical profession

Cae·sar¹ (sē'zər) *n.* [after fol.] 1 the title of the Roman emperors from 27 B.C. to A.D. 138 2 [often c-] any emperor or dictator

Cae·sar² (sē'zər), **Jul·ius** (jōōl'yəs) 100?-44 B.C.; Rom. general & dictator (49-44)

Cae·sar·e·an section (sə zer'ē ən) CESAREAN (SECTION)

cae·su·ra (si zyoor'ə; -zhoor'ə) *n., pl.* -ras or -rae (-ē) [L < *caedere*, to cut down] a break or pause in a line of verse, usually in the middle

ca·fe or **ca·fé** (kā fā', ka-) *n.* [Fr, coffee-house] a small restaurant or a barroom, nightclub, etc.

caf·e·te·ri·a (kāf'ə tir'ē ə) *n.* [AmSp, coffee store] a self-service restaurant

caf·feine or **caf·fein** (kā fēn', kāf'ēn') *n.* [Ger *kaffein*] the alkaloid present in coffee, tea, cola nuts, etc.: it is a stimulant

caf·tan (kāf'tan, -tan') *n.* [Turk *qafṭān*] 1 a long-sleeved robe, worn in eastern Mediterranean countries 2 a long, loose dress with wide sleeves

cage (kāj) *n.* [< L *cavea*, hollow place] 1 a structure of wires, bars, etc., for confining animals 2 any openwork structure or frame —*vt.* caged, cag'ing to put or confine, as in a cage

cag·er (kāj'ər) *n.* [Slang] a basketball player

ca·gey or **ca·gy** (kā'jē) *adj.* -gi-er, -gi-est [< ?] [Inf.] 1 sly; tricky; cunning 2 cautious —**ca'gi-ly** *adv.* —**ca'gi-ness** *n.*

ca·hoots (kā hōōts') *pl.n.* [< ?] [Slang] used chiefly in **in cahoots** (with), in league (with): usually applied to questionable dealing, etc.

Cain (kān) *n.* Bible oldest son of Adam and Eve: he killed his brother Abel — **raise Cain** [Slang] to create a great commotion, cause trouble, etc.

cairn (kern) *n.* [Scot] a conical heap of stones built as a monument

Cai·ro (kī'rō) capital of Egypt: pop. 5,084,000

cais·son (kā'sən) *n.* [Fr < L *capsa*, box] 1 a two-wheeled wagon with a chest for ammunition 2 a watertight box for underwater construction work

cai·tiff (kā'tif) *n.* [< L *captivus*, CAPTIVE] a mean or cowardly person —*adj.* mean or cowardly

ca·jole (kā jōl') *vt., vi.* -joled', -jol'ing [< Fr] to coax with flattery and insincere talk —**ca·jol'er** *n.* —**ca·jol'er-y** *n.*

Ca·jun or **Ca·jan** (kā'jən) *n.* 1 a native of Louisiana of Canadian French ancestry 2 the dialect of Cajuns —*adj.* of spicy cooking

cake (kāk) *n.* [< ON] 1 a small, flat mass of baked or fried dough, batter, hashed food, etc. 2 a mixture of flour, eggs, sugar, etc. baked as in a loaf and often covered with icing 3 a shaped, solid mass, as of soap —*vt., vi.* caked, cak'ing to form into a hard mass or crust —**take the cake** [Inf.] to be the prime example of something: usually used ironically —**cak'y** or **cak'ey**, -i-er, -i-est, *adj.*

cal *abbrev.* 1 caliber 2 calorie(s)

cal·a·bash (kal'ə bash') *n.* [< Sp *calabaza*] 1 the gourdlike fruit of a tropical American tree 2 a) the bottle-shaped, gourdlike fruit of a tropical vine b) a large smoking pipe made from it 3 a gourd

cal·a·boose (kal'ə bōōs') *n.* [Sp *calabozo*] [Dial. or Old Slang] a prison; jail

ca·la·ma·ri (kā'lə mā'rē) *n.* squid cooked as food, esp. as an Italian dish

cal·a·mine (kal'ə mīn') *n.* [Fr < L *cadmia*, zinc ore] a zinc oxide powder used in skin lotions

ca·lam·i·ty (kā lam'ə tē) *n., pl.* -ties [< L *calamitas*] a great misfortune; disaster —**ca·lam'i-tous** *adj.*

cal-car-e-ous (kal ker'ē əs) *adj.* [**< L calx, lime**] of or like limestone, calcium, or lime

cal-ci-fy (kal'sə fī') *vt., vi.* -fied', -fy'ing [**< L calx, lime + -FY**] to change into a hard, stony substance by the deposit of lime or calcium salts —**cal'ci-fi-ca'tion** *n.*

cal'ci-mine' (-min') *n.* [**< L calx, lime**] a white liquid, used as a wash for plastered surfaces —*vt.* -mined', -min'ing to coat with calcimine

cal-cine (kal'sin') *vt., vi.* -cined', -cin'ing [**< L calx, lime**] to change to an ashy powder by heat

cal-cite (kal'sit') *n.* CALCIUM CARBONATE

cal-ci-um (kal'sē əm) *n.* [**< L calx, lime**] a soft, silver-white, metallic chemical element found combined in limestone, chalk, etc.

calcium carbonate a white powder or crystalline compound found in limestone, chalk, marble, bones, shells, etc.

cal-cu-late (kal'kyə lāt') *vt.* -lat'ed, -lat'ing [**< L calculare, reckon**] 1 to determine by using mathematics; compute 2 to determine by reasoning; estimate 3 to plan or intend for a purpose —*vi.* 1 to compute 2 to rely (on) —**cal'cu-la-ble** (-lə bəl) *adj.*

cal'cu-lat'ed *adj.* deliberately planned or carefully considered —**cal'cu-lat'ed-ly** *adv.*

cal'cu-lat'ing *adj.* shrewd or scheming

cal'cu-la'tion *n.* 1 a calculating 2 something deduced by calculating 3 careful planning or forethought —**cal'cu-la'tive** *adj.*

cal'cu-la'tor *n.* 1 one who calculates 2 a device for the automatic performance of mathematical operations

cal'cu-lus (-ləs) *n., pl.* -li' (-lī') or -lus-es [**L, pebble used in counting**] 1 an abnormal stony mass in the body 2 *Math.* a system of calculation or analysis using special symbolic notation

Cal-cut-ta (kal kut'ə) seaport in NE India: pop. 9,194,000: now officially *Kolkata*

cal-de-ra (kal der'ə) *n.* [**Sp < L caldarium, room for hot baths**] a broad, craterlike basin of a volcano

cal-dron (kôl'drən) *n.* [**< L calidus, warm, hot**] 1 a large kettle or boiler 2 a state of violent agitation

cal-en-dar (kal'ən dər) *n.* [**< L kalendarium, account book**] 1 a system of determining the length and divisions of a year 2 a table that shows the days, weeks, and months of a given year 3 a schedule, as of programs

cal-en-der (kal'ən dər) *n.* [**< Gr kylin-dros, cylinder**] a machine with rollers for giving paper, cloth, etc. a smooth or glossy finish

calf¹ (kaf) *n., pl.* calves [**< OE cealf**] 1 a young cow or bull 2 the young of some other large animals, as the elephant or seal 3 CALFSKIN

calf² (kaf) *n., pl.* calves [**ON kalfi**] the fleshy back part of the leg below the knee

calf'skin' *n.* soft leather made from the skin of a calf

Cal-ga-ry (kal'gə rē) city in S Alberta, Canada: pop. 768,000

cal-i-ber (kal'ə bər) *n.* [**Fr & Sp, ult. < Gr kalopodion, shoemaker's last**] 1 the diameter of a cylindrical body, esp. of a bullet or shell 2 the diameter of the bore of a gun 3 quality or ability Also, esp. Brit., **cal'i-bre**

cal-i-brate (kal'ə brāt') *vt.* -brat'ed, -brat'ing 1 to determine the caliber of 2 to fix or correct the graduations of (a measuring instrument) —**cal'i-bra'tion** *n.* —**cal'i-bra'tor** *n.*

cal-i-co (kal'ī kō') *n., pl.* -coes' or -cos' [**after Calicut, city in India**] a printed cotton fabric —*adj.* spotted like calico [**a calico cat**]

Cal-i-for-nia (kal'ə fôr'nyə) state of the SW U.S., on the Pacific: 155,973 sq. mi.; pop. 29,760,000; cap. Sacramento: abbrev. CA —**Cal'i-for'nian** *adj., n.*

cal-i-per (kal'ə pər) *n.* [**var. of CALIBER**] 1 [**usually pl.**] an instrument consisting of a pair of hinged legs, for measuring thickness or diameter 2 a part of a braking system on a bicycle or motor vehicle

ca-liph (kā'lif; also, kal'if) *n.* [**Ar khalīfa**] supreme ruler: the title taken by Mohammed's successors as heads of Islam —**ca'liph-ate** (-ət, -āt') *n.*

cal-is-then-ics (kal'is then'iks) *pl.n.* [**< Gr kallos, beauty + sthenos, strength**] athletic exercises —**cal'is-then'ic** *adj.*

calk (kôk) *vt.* CAULK —**calk'er** *n.*

call (kôl) *vt.* [**< ON kalla**] 1 to say in a loud tone; shout 2 to summon 3 to give or apply a name to 4 to describe as specified 5 to awaken 6 to telephone 7 to give orders for (a strike, etc.) 8 to stop (a game, etc.) 9 to demand payment of (a loan, etc.) 10 to expose (someone's bluff) by challenging it 11 *Poker* to equal (the preceding bet) or to equal the bet of (the last previous bettor) —*vi.* 1 to shout 2 to visit for a short while: often with *on* 3 to telephone —*n.* 1 a calling 2 a loud utterance 3 the distinctive cry of an animal or bird 4 a summons; invitation 5 an act of telephoning 6 CALLING (sense 3) 7 an economic demand, as for a product 8 need [**no call for tears**] 9 a demand for payment 10 a brief visit 11 an option to buy a stock, commodity, etc. at a specified price and time 12 a referee's decision —**call down** [**Inf.**] to scold —**call for** 1 to demand 2 to come and get —**call off** to cancel (a scheduled event) —**call up** 1 to recall 2 to summon for duty 3 to telephone —**on call** available when summoned —**call'er** *n.*

cal-la (kal'ə) *n.* [**< L, a plant (of uncert. kind)**] a plant with a large, white leaf around a yellow flower spike: also *calla lily*

call forwarding a telephone service that allows incoming calls to be transferred automatically to another number

call girl a prostitute who is called by telephone to assignments

cal-lig-ra-phy (kə lig'rə fē) *n.* [**< Gr kallos, beauty + graphein, write**] artistic

handwriting —**cal·lig'ra·pher** *n.* —**cal·li·graph·ic** (kal'ə graf'ik) *adj.*

call'in' *adj.* of a radio or TV program whose audience members telephone to comment, ask questions, etc.

call'ing *n.* 1 the act of one that calls 2 one's work or profession 3 an inner urging toward some vocation

calling card 1 a small card with one's name and address on it 2 a credit card for long-distance telephone calls

cal·li·o·pe (kə lī'ə pē', kal'ē ōp') *n.* [**< Gr kallos**, beauty + **ops**, voice] a keyboard instrument like an organ, having a series of steam whistles

call letters the letters, and sometimes numbers, that identify a radio or TV station

cal·lous (kal'əs) *adj.* [**< L callum**, hard skin] 1 hardened: usually **cal'loused** 2 unfeeling —**cal·los·i·ty** (kə lās'ə tē) *n.* —**cal'lous·ly** *adv.* —**cal'lous·ness** *n.*

cal·low (kal'ō) *adj.* [**OE calu**, bare] immature; inexperienced —**cal'low·ness** *n.*

cal·lus (kal'əs) *n., pl. -lus·es* [**L**, var. of **callum**, hard skin] a hardened, thickened place on the skin

call waiting a telephone service that signals an incoming call to a person already talking and allows that person to take that call by putting the first call on hold

calm (kām) *n.* [**< Gr kauma**, heat] 1 lack of motion; stillness 2 lack of excitement; tranquillity —*adj.* 1 still; quiet 2 not excited; tranquil —*vt., vi.* to make or become calm: often with **down** —**calm'ly** *adv.* —**calm'ness** *n.*

ca·lor·ic (kə lōr'ik) *adj.* of calories —**ca·lor'i·cal·ly** *adv.*

cal·o·rie (kal'ə rē) *n.* [**Fr < L calor**, heat] a unit for measuring heat, esp. for measuring the energy produced by food when oxidized in the body

cal·o·rif·ic (kal'ə rif'ik) *adj.* [**< L calor**, heat + **facere**, make] producing heat

cal·u·met (kal'yə met') *n.* [**CdnFr < L calamus**, reed] a long-stemmed ceremonial pipe, smoked by North American Indians as a token of peace

ca·lum·ni·ate (kə lum'nē āt') *vt., vi.* -ated, -ating [see fol.] to slander

cal·um·ny (kal'əm nē) *n., pl. -nies* [**< L calumnia**, slander] a false and malicious statement; slander

Cal·va·ry (kal'və rē) *n.* **Bible** the place where Jesus was crucified

calve (kav) *vi., vt.* calved, calv'ing to give birth to (a calf)

calves (kavz) *n. pl. of CALF¹ & CALF²*

Cal·vin (kal'vin), John 1509-64; **Fr.** Protestant reformer

Cal'vin·ism' *n.* the Christian doctrines of John Calvin and his followers, esp. predestination —**Cal'vin·ist** *n., adj.* —**Cal'vin·is'tic** *adj.*

ca·lyp·so (kə lip'sō) *n.* [**< ?**] a kind of lively, topical folk song that originated in Trinidad

ca·lyx (kā'liks'; also kal'iks') *n., pl. -lyx'es or -ly·ces'* [**L**, pod] the outer whorl of protective leaves, or sepals, of a flower

cam (kam) *n.* [**Du cam**, orig., a comb] a wheel, projection on a wheel, etc. that gives irregular motion, as to a wheel or shaft, or receives such motion from it

ca·ma·ra·de·rie (kam'ə rād'ə rē, kām'-) *n.* [**Fr**] loyalty and warm, friendly feeling among comrades

cam·ber (kam'bər) *n.* [**OFr < L camur**, arched] a slight convex curve of a surface, as of a road —*vt., vi.* to arch slightly

cam·bi·um (kam'bē əm) *n.* [**< LL cambiare**, to change] a layer of cells between the wood and bark in woody plants, which will eventually become more wood and bark —**cam'bi·al** *adj.*

Cam·bo·di·a (kam bō'dē ə) country in S Indochina: 69,898 sq. mi.; pop. 5,756,000; cap. Phnom Penh —**Cam·bo'di·an** *adj., n.*

cam·bric (kām'brik) *n.* [after **Cambrai**, **Fr** city] a fine linen or cotton cloth

Cam·bridge (kām'brij') 1 city in **EC** England: county district pop. 92,000 2 city in **E** Massachusetts: pop. 96,000

cam·cord·er (kam'kôrd'ər) *n.* a small, portable videotape recorder and TV camera

came (kām) *vi. pt. of COME*

cam·el (kam'əl) *n.* [ult. **< Heb gāmāl**] a large, domesticated mammal with a humped back and long neck: because it can store water in its body, it is used in Asian and African deserts

ca·mel·lia (kə mēl'yə, -mē'lē ə) *n.* [after **G. J. Kamel** (1661-1706), missionary to the Far East] 1 an Asiatic evergreen tree or shrub with glossy leaves and roselike flowers 2 the flower

Cam·em·bert (cheese) (kam'əm ber', -bərt) [after **Camembert**, **Fr** village] a soft, rich, creamy cheese

cam·e·o (kam'ē ō') *n., pl. -os'* [**< It < ML camaeus**] 1 a gem carved with a figure raised in relief 2 a choice minor role, esp. one played by a notable actor

cam·er·a (kam'ər ə, kam'rə) *n.* [**L**, vault] 1 a device for taking photographs: a closed box containing a sensitized plate or film on which an image is formed when light enters through a lens 2 **TV** the device that receives the image and transforms it into a flow of electrical impulses for transmission — **in camera** in privacy or secrecy

cam'er·a·man' (-man') *n., pl. -men'* (-men') an operator of a film or TV camera

Cam·e·roon (kam'ə rōon') country in **WC** Africa, on the Atlantic: 183,569 sq. mi.; pop. 10,494,000 —**Cam'e·roon'i·an** *adj., n.*

cam·i·sole (kam'i sōl') *n.* [**Fr < LL camisia**, shirt] a woman's sleeveless undergarment for the upper body

cam·o·mile (kam'ə mil', -mēl') *n.* [**< Gr chamaimēlon**, earth apple] a plant whose dried, daisylike flower heads are used in a medicinal tea

cam·ou·flage (kam'ə flāzh', -flāj') *n.* [**Fr < camoufler**, to disguise] 1 a disguising, as of ships or guns, to conceal them from the enemy 2 a disguise; deception

—*vt.*, *vi.* -*flaged'*, -*flag'ing* to disguise (a thing or person) for concealment — *cam'ou-flag'er n.*

camp (kamp) *n.* [*< L campus, field*] 1 *a)* a place where temporary tents, huts, etc. are put up, as for soldiers *b)* a group of such tents, etc. 2 the supporters of a particular cause 3 a recreational place in the country for vacationers, esp. children 4 the people living in a camp 5 [Slang] banality, artifice, etc. so extreme as to amuse or have a perversely sophisticated appeal — *vi.* 1 to set up a camp 2 to live or stay in a camp: often with *out*. — *break camp* to dismantle a camp and depart

cam-paign (kam pān') *n.* [*Fr < L campus, field*] 1 a series of military operations with a particular objective 2 a series of planned actions, as to elect a candidate — *vi.* to participate in a campaign — *cam-paign'er n.*

cam-pa-ni-le (kam'pə nē'lē) *n.*, *pl.* -*les* or -*li* (-lē) [*It < LL campana, a bell*] a bell tower

camp-er (kam'pər) *n.* 1 a vacationer at a camp 2 a motor vehicle or trailer equipped for camping out

camp'fire' n. 1 an outdoor fire at a camp 2 a social gathering around such a fire

cam-phor (kam'fər) *n.* [*< Sans karpuraḥ, camphor tree*] a crystalline substance with a strong odor, derived from the wood of an E Asian evergreen tree (camphor tree): used to repel moths, in medicine as a stimulant, etc. — *cam'phor-at'ed adj.*

camp meeting a religious meeting held outdoors or in a tent, etc.

camp'site' n. 1 any site for a camp 2 an area in a park set aside for camping

cam-pus (kam'pəs) *n.*, *pl.* -*pus-es* [*L, a field*] the grounds, and sometimes buildings, of a school or college — *adj.* of a school or college [*campus politics*]

camp'y adj. -*i-er*, -*i-est* [Slang] characterized by CAMP (*n.* 5)

cam'shaft' n. a shaft having a cam, or to which a cam is fastened

can¹ (kan; *unstressed* kən) *vi.*, *v.aux. pt.* could [*< OE cunnan, to know*] 1 know(s) how (to) 2 am, are, or is able (to) 3 am, are, or is likely (to) [*can that be true?*] 4 have or has the right (to) 5 [*Inf.*] am, are, or is permitted (to); may — *can but can only*

can² (kan) *n.* [*OE canne, a cup*] 1 a container, usually metal, with a separate cover [*a garbage can*] 2 a tinne metal container in which foods, etc. are sealed for preservation 3 the amount a can holds — *vt.* canned, *can'ning* 1 to put up in cans or jars for preservation 2 [*Slang*] to dismiss

Ca-na-an (kā'nən) ancient region at the SE end of the Mediterranean: the Biblical Promised Land

Can-a-da (kan'ə də) country in N North America: 3,849,671 sq. mi.; pop. 28,847,000; cap. Ottawa — **Ca-na-di-an** (kə nā'dē ən) *adj.*, *n.*

Canadian bacon cured, smoked pork

taken from the loin

Canadian English English as spoken and written in Canada

Ca-na'di-an-ism' n. 1 a custom or belief originating in Canada 2 a word or phrase originating in Canadian English

ca-nal (kə nāl') *n.* [*< L canalis, channel*] 1 an artificial waterway for transportation or irrigation 2 *Anat.* a tubular passage or duct

Canal Zone former name for a strip of land on either side of the Panama Canal: leased by the U.S. (1904-79)

ca-na-pé (kan'ə pā', kan'ə pē) *n.* [*Fr*] a small piece of bread or a cracker, spread with spiced meat, cheese, etc., served as an appetizer

ca-nard (kə nārd') *n.* [*Fr, a duck*] a false, esp. malicious, report

ca-nar-y (kə ner'ē) *n.*, *pl.* -*ies* [*after Canary Islands*] 1 a small, yellow finch 2 a light yellow

Canary Islands group of Spanish islands off NW Africa

ca-nas-ta (kə nas'tə) *n.* [*Sp, basket*] a card game using a double deck

Can-ber-ra (kan'ber'ə, -bə rə) capital of Australia: pop. 328,000

can-can (kan'kan') *n.* [*Fr*] a lively dance with much high kicking

can-cel (kan'səl) *vt.* -*celed* or -*celled*, -*cel-ing* or -*cel-ling* [*< L cancellus, lattice*] 1 to mark over with lines, etc., as in deleting written matter or marking a postage stamp, check, etc. as used 2 to make invalid 3 to do away with; abolish 4 to neutralize or balance: often with *out* 5 *Math.* to remove (a common factor, equivalents, etc.) — *can'cel-la'tion n.*

can-cer (kan'sər) *n.* [*L, crab*] 1 [*C-*] the fourth sign of the zodiac 2 a malignant tumor that can spread 3 anything bad or harmful that spreads — *can'cer-ous adj.*

can-de-la-brum (kan'də lā'brəm, -lā'-) *n.*, *pl.* -*bra* (-brə) or -*brums* [*L: see CHANDELIER*] a large branched candlestick: also *can'de-la'bra*, *pl.* -*bras*

can-did (kan'did) *adj.* [*L candidus, white, pure, sincere*] 1 very honest or frank 2 unposed and informal [*a candid photo*] — *can'did-ly adv.*

can-di-date (kan'də dāt', -dət) *n.* [*L candidatus, white-robed, as were Roman office seekers*] 1 one seeking an office, award, etc. 2 one seemingly destined to come to a certain end

can-died (kan'dēd') *adj.* cooked in sugar or syrup until glazed or encrusted

can-dle (kan'dəl) *n.* [*< L candela*] a cylinder of tallow or wax with a wick through it, which gives light when burned — *vt.* -*dled*, -*dling* to examine (eggs) for freshness by placing in front of a light — *can'dler n.*

can'dle-stick' n. a cupped or spiked holder for a candle or candles

can'-do' adj. [*Inf.*] confident of one's ability to accomplish something

can-dor (kan'dər) *n.* [*L, openness*] unre-served honesty or frankness in expressing oneself: Brit. sp. *can'dour*

can·dy (kan'dē) *n.*, *pl.* -dies [*<* Pers *qand*, cane sugar] a solid confection of sugar or syrup with flavoring, fruit, nuts, etc. —*vt.* -died, -dy·ing 1 to cook in sugar, esp. so as to preserve 2 to crystallize into sugar

cane (kān) *n.* [*<* Gr *kanna*] 1 the slender, jointed stem of certain plants, as bamboo 2 a plant with such a stem, as sugar cane 3 WALKING STICK 4 split rattan —*vt.* caned, can'ing 1 to flog with a cane 2 to make (chair seats, etc.) with cane —can'er *n.*

cane·brake (kān'brāk') *n.* a dense growth of cane plants

ca·nine (kā'nīn') *adj.* [*<* L *canis*, dog] 1 of or like a dog 2 of the family of carnivores that includes dogs, wolves, and foxes —*n.* 1 a dog or other canine animal 2 any of the sharp-pointed teeth next to the incisors: in full canine tooth

can·is·ter (kan'is tər) *n.* [*<* Gr *kanas-tron*, wicker basket] a small box or can for coffee, tea, etc.

can·ker (kan'kər) *n.* [*<* L *cancer*, a crab] an ulcerlike sore, esp. in the mouth —can'ker·ous *adj.*

can·na·bis (kan'ə bis) *n.* [L, hemp] 1 HEMP 2 marijuana or any other substance made from the flowering tops of the hemp

canned (kand) *adj.* 1 preserved, as in cans 2 [Slang] recorded for reproduction, as on radio or TV

can·nel (coal) (kan'əl) a dense bituminous coal that burns with a steady, bright flame

can·ner·y (kan'ər ē) *n.*, *pl.* -ies a factory where foods are canned

can·ni·bal (kan'ə bəl) *n.* [Sp *canibal*] 1 a person who eats human flesh 2 an animal that eats its own kind —*adj.* of or like cannibals —can'ni·bal·ism' *n.* —can'ni·bal·is'tic *adj.*

can'ni·bal·ize' (-īz') *vt.*, *vi.* -ized', -iz'ing to strip (old or worn equipment) of parts for use in other units

can·non (kan'ən) *n.*, *pl.* -nons or -non [*<* L *canna*, cane] 1 a large, mounted piece of artillery 2 an automatic gun on an aircraft

can'non·ade' (-ād') *n.* a continuous firing of artillery —*vt.*, *vi.* -ad'ed, -ad'ing to fire artillery (at)

can·not (kan'āt', kə nāt') can not —can·not but have or has no choice but to

can·ny (kan'ē) *adj.* -ni·er, -ni·est [*<* CAN¹] cautious and shrewd —can'ni·ly *adv.* —can'ni·ness *n.*

ca·noe (kə nōō') *n.* [*<* Sp *canoa* *<* WInd] a light, narrow boat moved by paddles —*vi.* -noed', -noe'ing to paddle, or go in, a canoe —ca·noe'ist *n.*

ca·no·la (oil) (kə nō'lə) an oil from the seed of the rape plant, used in cooking

can·on (kan'ən) *n.* [OE, a rule *<* L] 1 a law or body of laws of a church 2 *a*) a basic rule or principle *b*) a criterion 3 an official list, as of books of the Bible 4 the complete works, as of an author 5 *Music* a round 6 a clergyman serving in a cathedral

ca·ñon (kan'yən) *n.* *alt. sp. of* CANYON

ca·non·i·cal (kə nān'i kəl) *adj.* 1 of or

according to church law 2 of or belonging to a canon

can·on·ize (kan'ən īz') *vt.* -ized', -iz'ing 1 to declare (a deceased person) a saint 2 to glorify —can'on·i·za'tion *n.*

can·o·py (kan'ə pē) *n.*, *pl.* -pies [*<* Gr *kōnōpeion*, couch with mosquito nets] 1 a drapery, etc. fastened above a bed, throne, etc., or held over a person 2 a rooflike projection —*vt.* -pied, -py·ing to place or form a canopy over; cover

cant¹ (kant) *n.* [*<* L *cantus*, song] 1 the secret slang of beggars, thieves, etc.; argot 2 the special vocabulary of those in a certain occupation; jargon 3 insincere talk, esp. when pious —*vi.* to use cant

cant² (kant) *n.* [L *cantus*, tire of a wheel] 1 an outside angle 2 a beveled edge 3 a tilt, turn, slant, etc. —*vt.*, *vi.* to slant; tilt

can't (kant, kánt) *contr.* cannot

can·ta·loupe or **can·ta·loup** (kant'ə lōp') *n.* [Fr *<* It *Cantalupo*, estate near Rome, where first grown in Europe] a muskmelon with a rough rind and juicy, orange flesh

can·tan·ker·ous (kan tan'kər əs) *adj.* [prob. *<* ME *contakour*, troublemaker] bad-tempered; quarrelsome —can·tan'ker·ous·ly *adv.* —can·tan'ker·ous·ness *n.*

can·ta·ta (kān tāt'ə, kən-) *n.* [It *<* *cantare*, to sing] a choral composition that sets to music the words of a story to be sung but not acted

can·teen (kan tēn') *n.* [*<* Fr *<* It *cantina*, wine cellar] 1 a recreation center for military personnel, teenagers, etc. 2 a place where food is dispensed, as in a disaster area 3 a small flask for carrying water

can·ter (kant'ər) *n.* [*<* *Canterbury gallop*, a riding pace] a moderate gallop —*vi.*, *vt.* to ride at a canter

can·ti·cle (kan'ti kəl) *n.* [*<* L *cantus*, song] a hymn with words taken from the Bible

can·ti·le·ver (kant'l ē'vər, -ev'ər) *n.* [*<* ?] a bracket or block projecting as a support; esp., a projecting structure anchored at one end to a pier or wall —*vt.* to support by means of cantilevers —can'ti·le'vered *adj.*

can·to (kan'tō) *n.*, *pl.* -tos [It *<* L *cantus*, song] any of the main divisions of certain long poems

can·ton (kan'tən, -tān') *n.* [Fr *<* LL *cantus*, corner] any of the states in the Swiss Republic

Can·ton (kan tən') a former transliteration of GUANGZHOU

Can·ton·ese (kan'tə nēz') *n.* 1 *pl.* -ese' a person born or living in Canton, China 2 the variety of Chinese spoken in Canton —*adj.* of Canton

can·ton·ment (kan tən'mənt, -tōn'-) *n.* [Fr: see CANTON] temporary quarters for troops

can·tor (kan'tər) *n.* [L, singer] a singer of liturgical solos in a synagogue

can·vas (kan'vəs) *n.* [*<* L *cannabis*, hemp] 1 a coarse cloth of hemp, cotton,

etc., used for tents, sails, etc. 2 a sail, tent, etc. 3 an oil painting on canvas
can'vas-back' *n.* a North American wild duck with a grayish back

can·vass (kan'vəs) *vt., vi.* [*< canvas < ? use of canvas for sifting*] to go through (places) or among (people) asking for (votes, opinions, orders, etc.) —*n.* a canvassing —**can'vass-er** *n.*

can·yon (kan'yən) *n.* [*Sp cañón, tube < L canna, a reed*] a long, narrow valley between high cliffs

cap¹ (kap) *n.* [*< LL cappa, hooded cloak*] 1 any closefitting head covering, with or without a visor or brim 2 a caplike part or thing; cover or top —*vt.* capped, cap'ping 1 to put a cap on 2 to cover the top or end of 3 to equal or excel

cap² *abbrev.* 1 capacity 2 capital

ca·pa·ble (kā'pə bəl) *adj.* [*< L capere, to take*] having ability; skilled; competent —**capable of** 1 having the qualities necessary for 2 able or ready to —**ca'pa·bil'i·ty**, *pl.* -ties, *n.* —**ca'pa·bly** *adv.*

ca·pa·cious (kə pā'shəs) *adj.* [*< L capere, to take*] roomy; spacious —**ca·pa'cious·ly** *adv.* —**ca·pa'cious·ness** *n.*

ca·pac·i·tor (kə pas'ə tər) *n.* a device for storing an electric charge

ca·pac'i·ty (-tē) *n., pl.* -ties [*< L capere, take*] 1 the ability to contain, absorb, or receive 2 all that can be contained; volume 3 ability 4 maximum output 5 position; function

ca·par·i·son (kə par'i sən, -zən) *n.* [*< LL cappa, cloak*] trappings for a horse —*vt.* to cover (a horse) with trappings

cape¹ (kāp) *n.* [*see prec.*] a sleeveless garment fastened at the neck and hanging over the back and shoulders

cape² (kāp) *n.* [*< L caput, head*] a piece of land projecting into a body of water

ca·per¹ (kā'pər) *vi.* [*? < Fr capriole, a leap*] to skip about in a playful manner —*n.* 1 a playful leap 2 a prank 3 [*Slang*] a criminal act, esp. a robbery —**cut a caper** (or **cut capers**) to caper

ca·per² (kā'pər) *n.* [*< Gr kapparis*] the green flower bud of a Mediterranean bush, pickled and used as a seasoning

cape'skin' *n.* [*orig. made from the skin of goats from the Cape of Good Hope*] fine leather made from sheepskin

Cape Town seaport in South Africa: seat of the legislature: pop. 855,000

Cape Verde (vərd) country on a group of islands in the Atlantic, west of Senegal: 1,557 sq. mi.; pop. 337,000

cap·il·lar·y (kap'ə ler'ē) *adj.* [*< L capillus, hair*] very slender —*n., pl.* -ies 1 a tube with a very small bore: also **capillary tube** 2 any of the tiny blood vessels connecting the arteries with the veins

capillary attraction the action by which liquids in contact with solids, as in a capillary tube, rise or fall: also **capillary action**

cap·i·tal (kap'ət 'l) *adj.* [*< L caput, head*] 1 punishable by death 2 principal; chief 3 of, or being, the seat of gov-

ernment 4 of capital, or wealth 5 excellent —*n.* 1 CAPITAL LETTER 2 a city that is the seat of government of a state or nation 3 money or property owned or used in business 4 [*often C-*] capitalists collectively 5 the top part of a column

capital gain profit resulting from the sale of capital investments such as stocks

cap'i·tal·ism' *n.* an economic system in which the means of production and distribution are privately owned and operated for profit

cap'i·tal·ist *n.* 1 an owner of wealth used in business 2 an upholder of capitalism 3 a wealthy person —**cap'i·tal·is'tic** *adj.*

cap'i·tal·ize' (-iz') *vt.* -ized', -iz'ing 1 to use as or convert into capital 2 to supply capital to or for 3 to begin (a word) with a capital letter —**capitalize on something** to use something to one's advantage —**cap'i·tal·i·za'tion** *n.*

capital letter the form of an alphabetical letter used to begin a sentence or proper name, as A, B, or C

cap'i·tal·ly *adv.* very well

capital punishment the penalty of death for a crime

Cap·i·tol (kap'ət 'l) *n.* [*< L Capitolium, temple of Jupiter in Rome*] 1 the building in which the U.S. Congress meets in Washington, DC 2 [*usually c-*] the building in which a state legislature meets

ca·pit·u·late (kə pich'yoo lāt', -pich'ə lāt') *vi.* -lat'ed, -lat'ing [*< LL capitulare, arrange conditions*] 1 to give up (to an enemy) on prearranged conditions 2 to stop resisting —**ca·pit'u·la'tion** *n.*

cap·let (kap'lit) *n.* a solid, elongated medicine tablet, coated for easy swallowing

ca·pon (kā'pän', -pən) *n.* [*< L capō*] a castrated rooster fattened for eating

cap·puc·ci·no (kā'pə chē'nō, kap'ə-) *n.* [*It*] espresso coffee mixed with steamed milk and topped with cinnamon, etc.

ca·price (kə prēs') *n.* [*Fr < It*] 1 a sudden, impulsive change in thinking or acting 2 a capricious quality

ca·pri·cious (kə prish'əs) *adj.* subject to caprices; erratic —**ca·pri'cious·ly** *adv.* —**ca·pri'cious·ness** *n.*

Cap·ri·corn (kap'ri kôrn') *n.* [*< L caper, goat + cornu, horn*] the tenth sign of the zodiac

cap·size (kap'siz', kap siz') *vt., vi.* -sized', -siz'ing [*< ?*] to overturn or upset: said esp. of a boat

cap·stan (kap'stən) *n.* [*? < L capere, take*] an upright cylinder, as on ships, around which cables are wound for hoisting anchors, etc.

cap·sule (kap'səl, -syool') *n.* [*Fr < L capsula, box*] 1 a soluble gelatin container enclosing a dose of medicine 2 a detachable compartment to hold people, instruments, etc. in a rocket: in full space capsule 3 *Bot.* a seed vessel —*adj.* in a concise form —**cap'su·lar** *adj.*

cap'sul·ize' (-iz') *vt.* -ized', -iz'ing 1 to enclose in a capsule 2 to condense

Capt *abbrev.* Captain

cap·tain (kap'tən) *n.* [*< L caput, head*] 1 a chief; leader 2 *U.S. Mil.* an officer ranking just above first lieutenant 3 *U.S. Navy* an officer ranking just above commander 4 *a)* the person in command of a ship *b)* the pilot of an airplane 5 the leader of a team, as in sports —*vt.* to be captain of —**cap'tain·cy**, *pl. -cies, n.*

cap·tion (kap'shən) *n.* [*< L capere, to take*] 1 a heading or title, as of a newspaper article or illustration 2 *Film, TV* a subtitle —*vt.* to supply a caption for **cap'tious** (-shəs) *adj.* [*see prec.*] 1 made only for the sake of argument or faultfinding [*a captious remark*] 2 quick to find fault —**cap'tiously** *adv.* —**cap'tious·ness** *n.*

cap·ti·vate (kap'tə vāt') *vt.* -vat'ed, -vat'ing to capture the attention or affection of —**cap'ti·vat'ing·ly** *adv.* —**cap'ti·va'tion** *n.* —**cap'ti·va'tor** *n.*

cap·tive (kap'tiv) *n.* [*< L capere, to take*] a prisoner —*adj.* 1 taken or held prisoner 2 obliged to listen [*a captive audience*] —**cap·tiv'i·ty**, *pl. -ties, n.*

cap'tor (-tər) *n.* one who captures

cap'ture (-chər) *vt.* -tured, -tur·ing [*< L capere, to take*] 1 to take or seize by force, surprise, etc. 2 to represent in a more permanent form [*to capture her charm on canvas*] —*n.* a capturing or being captured

car (kär) *n.* [*< L carrus, chariot*] 1 any vehicle on wheels 2 a vehicle that moves on rails, as a streetcar 3 an automobile 4 an elevator cage

Ca·ra·cas (kə räk'əs, -rak'-) capital of Venezuela: pop. 1,825,000

car·a·cul (kar'ə kul', -kəl) *n. alt. sp. of* KARAKUL (*esp. sense 2*)

ca·rafe (kə raf', -räf') *n.* [*Fr*] a glass bottle for serving wine, water, or coffee

car·a·mel (kär'məl, kar'ə məl) *n.* [*Fr*] 1 burnt sugar used to color or flavor food 2 a chewy candy made from sugar, milk, etc.

car'a·mel·ize' (-iz') *vt., vi.* -ized', -iz'ing to turn into CARAMEL (*sense 1*)

car·a·pace (kar'ə pās') *n.* [*Fr < Sp*] the upper shell of the turtle, crab, etc.

car·at (kar'ət) *n.* [*Fr < Gr keration, little horn*] 1 a unit of weight for precious stones, equal to 200 milligrams 2 KARAT

car·a·van (kar'ə van') *n.* [*< Pers kārwan*] 1 a company of people traveling together for safety, as through a desert 2 VAN²

car·a·van·sa·ry (kar'ə van'sə rē) *n., pl. -ries* [*< Pers kārwan, caravan + sarāi, palace*] in the Middle East, an inn for caravans

car·a·way (kar'ə wā') *n.* [*< Ar al-karawiyā*] the spicy seeds of an herb, used to flavor bread, etc.

car·bide (kär'bīd') *n.* a solid compound of a metal with carbon

car·bine (kär'bīn', -bēn') *n.* [*< Fr scarabée, beetle*] 1 a short-barreled rifle 2 a light, semiautomatic or automatic rifle of relatively limited range

carbo- combining form carbon: also

carb-

car·bo·hy·drate (kär'bō hī'drāt, -bə-) *n.* [*prec. + HYDRATE*] an organic compound composed of carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen, as a sugar or starch

car·bol·ic acid (kär bäl'ik) *see* PHENOL

car·bon (kär'bən) *n.* [*< L carbo, coal*] 1 a nonmetallic chemical element found esp. in all organic compounds: diamond and graphite are pure carbon: a radioactive isotope of carbon (**carbon-14**) is used in dating fossils, etc. 2 **CARBON PAPER** 3 a copy made with carbon paper —*adj.* of or like carbon

car'bon·ate (-bə nit; *also, and for v. always, -nāt'*) *n.* a salt or ester of carbonic acid —*vt.* -at'ed, -at'ing to charge with carbon dioxide —**car'bon·a'tion** *n.*

carbon black carbon produced by the incomplete burning of oil or gas

carbon copy 1 a copy made with carbon paper 2 anything-very much like another

carbon dating a method of establishing the approximate age of fossils, etc. by measuring the amount of carbon-14 in them —**car'bon·date'**, -dat'ed, -dat'ing, *vt.*

carbon di·ox·ide (dī äks'id') a heavy, colorless, odorless gas: it passes out of the lungs in respiration

car·bon·ic acid (kär bän'ik) a weak acid formed by carbon dioxide in water

car·bon·if·er·ous (kär'bə nif'ər əs) *adj.* containing carbon or coal

carbon mon·ox·ide (mə näks'id') a colorless, odorless, highly poisonous gas

carbon paper thin paper coated on one side, as with a carbon preparation, used to make copies of letters, etc.

carbon tet·ra·chlo·ride (te'trə klôr'id') a nonflammable liquid, used as a solvent for fats and oils, etc.

Car·bo·run·dum (kär'bə run'dəm) [*CARB(ON) + (c)orundum*] trademark for a hard abrasive, esp. of carbon and silicon —*n.* [c-] such a substance

car·boy (kär'boi') *n.* [*< Pers qarābah*] a large bottle enclosed in a protective container, for holding corrosive liquids

car·bun·cle (kär'buŋ'kəl) *n.* [*< L dim. of carbo, coal*] a painful bacterial infection deep beneath the skin —**car·bun'cu·lar** (-kyōō lər) *adj.*

car·bu·ret·or (kär'bə rāt'ər) *n.* a device for mixing air with gasoline spray to make an explosive mixture in an internal-combustion engine

car·cass (kär'kəs) *n.* [*< Fr carcasse*] 1 the dead body of an animal 2 a framework or shell

car·cin·o·gen (kär sin'ə jən) *n.* [*< fol. + -GEN*] any substance that produces cancer —**car·ci·no·gen·ic** (kär'sə nō jen'ik) *adj.*

car·ci·no·ma (kär'sə nō'mə) *n., pl. -mas or -ma·ta* (-mə tə) [*L < Gr karkinos, crab*] any of several kinds of epithelial cancer

car coat a short overcoat

card¹ (kärd) *n.* [*< Gr chartēs, layer of papyrus*] 1 a flat, stiff piece of paper or

pasteboard; specif., *a*) any of a pack of playing cards *b*) a card identifying a person, esp. as a member, agent, etc. *c*) a postcard *d*) an illustrated, usually folded card bearing a greeting *e*) any of a series of cards on which information is recorded **2** a small, plug-in circuit board **3** [Inf.] a witty or clowning person —**put (or lay) one's cards on the table** to reveal something frankly

card² (kărd) *n.* [*< L carrere, to card*] a metal comb or a machine with wire teeth for combing fibers of wool, cotton, etc. —**vt.** to use a card on

card'board *n.* stiff, thick paper or pasteboard, used for cards, boxes, etc.

car-di-ac (kăr'dē ak') *adj.* [*< Gr kardia, heart*] of or near the heart

cardiac arrest the complete failure of the heart to pump blood

car-di-gan (kăr'di gən) *n.* [after 7th Earl of Cardigan] a sweater or jacket, usually knitted and collarless, that opens down the front

car-di-nal (kărd'n əl) *adj.* [*< L cardo, pivot*] **1** principal; chief **2** bright-red —*n.* **1** an official appointed by the pope to his council **2** a bright-red American songbird **3** CARDINAL NUMBER

cardinal number any number used in counting or in showing how many (e.g., two, 40, 627, etc.)

cardio- [*< Gr kardia, heart*] combining form of the heart

car-di-o-gram (kăr'dē ō gram', -dē ə-) *n.* ELECTROCARDIOGRAM

car'di-o-graph (-graf') *n.* ELECTROCARDIOGRAPH

car'di-ol'o-gy (-ăl'ə jē) *n.* the branch of medicine dealing with the heart — **car'di-ol'o-gist** *n.*

car-di-o-pul-mo-nar-y (kăr'dē ō pool' mə ner'ē) *adj.* of or involving the heart and lungs

car'di-o-vas'cu-lar (-vas'kyə lər) *adj.* of the heart and the blood vessels as a unified body system

cards *pl.n.* any game played with a deck of playing cards, as poker

card'sharp *n.* [Inf.] a professional cheater at cards: also **card shark**

care (ker) *n.* [*< OE caru, sorrow*] **1 a**) a troubled state of mind; worry **b**) a cause of such a mental state **2** close attention; heed **3** a liking or regard (*for*) **4** custody; protection **5** a responsibility —**vi.** **cared, car'ing** **1** to feel concern **2** to feel love or a liking (*for*) **3** to look after; provide (*for*) **4** to wish (*for*); want —**vt.** **1** to feel concern about or interest in **2** to wish —(*in*) **care of** at the address of —**take care of** **1** to attend to **2** to provide for

ca-reen (kə rēn') **vt., vi.** [*< L carina, keel*] to lean or cause to lean sideways; tip; tilt; lurch

ca-reer (kə rir') *n.* [*< L carrus, car*] **1** [Archaic] a swift course **2** one's progress through life **3** a profession or occupation —**vi.** to rush wildly

care'free *adj.* free from worry

care'ful *adj.* **1** cautious; wary **2** accu-

rate; thorough; painstaking —**care'ful-ly** *adv.* —**care'ful-ness** *n.*

care'giver *n.* one who takes care of a child, invalid, etc.

care'less *adj.* **1** carefree; untroubled **2** not paying enough heed; neglectful **3** done or made without enough attention, precision, etc. —**care'less-ly** *adv.* —**care'less-ness** *n.*

ca-ress (kə res') **vt.** [*ult. < L carus, dear*] to touch lovingly or gently —*n.* an affectionate touch

car-et (kar'it, ker'-) *n.* [*L, there is lacking*] a mark (^) used to show where something is to be inserted in a written or printed line

care'tak'er *n.* **1** a person hired to take care of something or someone **2** one acting as temporary replacement

care'worn *adj.* worn out by, or showing the effects of, troubles and worry; haggard

car-fare (kăr'fer') *n.* the price of a ride on a subway, bus, etc.

car-go (kăr'gō) *n., pl. -goes or -gos* [*< Sp cargar, to load*] the load carried by a ship, truck, etc.; freight

car'hop *n.* [*CAR + (BELL)HOP*] one who serves food at a drive-in restaurant

Car-ib-be-an (Sea) (kar'ə bē'an, kə rib'ē ən) part of the Atlantic, bounded by the West Indies, Central America, and N South America

car-i-bou (kar'ə bōō') *n.* [*CdnFr*] a large North American reindeer

car-i-ca-ture (kar'i kə chər) *n.* [*Fr < It caricare, exaggerate*] **1** the exaggerated imitation of a person, literary style, etc. for satirical effect **2** a picture, etc. in which this is done —**vt. -tured, -tur-ing** to depict as in a caricature —**car'i-ca-tur-ist** *n.*

car-ies (ker'ēz') *n.* [*L, decay*] decay of bones or, esp., of teeth

car-il-lon (kar'ə län') *n.* [*Fr, chime of four bells < L quattuor, four*] a set of bells tuned to the chromatic scale

ca-ri-tas (kăr'ē tās') *n.* love for all people

car-jack-ing (kăr'jak'ing) *n.* the taking of a car and its passengers by force — **car'jack** **vt.** —**car'jack'er** *n.*

car-mine (kăr'min, -mīn') *n.* [*ult. < Ar qirmiz, crimson*] a red or purplish-red color —**adj.** red or purplish-red

car-nage (kăr'nij) *n.* [*Fr < L caro, flesh*] extensive slaughter, esp. in battle

car'nal (-nəl) *adj.* [*< L caro, flesh*] **1** of the flesh; material; worldly **2** sensual or sexual —**car-nal'i-ty** (-nal'i tē), *pl. -ties, n.* —**car'nal-ly** *adv.*

car-na-tion (kăr nā'shən) *n.* [*< L caro, flesh*] **1** a plant of the pink family, widely cultivated for its white, pink, or red flowers **2** its flower

car-nel-ian (kăr nēl'yən) *n.* [*< L carnis, of flesh (color)*] a red variety of chalcedony, used in jewelry

car-ni-val (kăr'nə vəl) *n.* [*< Fr carnaval (or It carnevale)*] **1** the period of feasting and revelry just before Lent **2** a reveling; festivity **3** an entertainment with sideshows, rides, etc.

car-ni-vore (kăr'nə vōr') *n.* a carnivorous animal or plant

car-niv-o-rous (kär niv'ə rəs) *adj.* [**< L** *caro*, flesh + *vorare*, to devour] 1 flesh-eating 2 of the carnivores —**car-niv'o-rous-ness** *n.*

car-ob (kar'əb) *n.* a tree of the E Mediterranean region with sweet pods used in making candy, etc.

car-ol (kar'əl) *n.* [**< OFr** *carole*, kind of dance] a song of joy or praise; esp., a Christmas song —**vi.**, **vt.** -oled or -olled, -ol-ing or -ol-ling to sing; esp., to sing Christmas carols —**car'ol-er** or **car'ol-ler** *n.*

car-om (kar'əm) *n.* [**< Sp** *carambola*] 1 *Billiards* a shot in which the cue ball successively hits two balls 2 a hitting and rebounding —**vi.** 1 to make a carom 2 to hit and rebound

ca-rot-id (kə rät'id) *adj.* [**Gr** *karōtis*] designating or of either of the two main arteries, one on each side of the neck, which convey blood to the head —**n.** a carotid artery

ca-rouse (kə rouz') *vi.* -roused', -rous'ing [**< Ger** *gar austrinken*, to drink] to engage in a noisy drinking party —**n.** a noisy drinking party

car-ou-sel (kar'ə sel') *n.* [**Fr** **< It** dial. (Naples) *carusiello*, kind of tournament] 1 a merry-go-round 2 a circular baggage conveyor in an airport

carp¹ (kärp) *n.*, *pl.* **carp** or **carps** [**< VL** *carpa*] an edible freshwater fish widely cultivated for food

carp² (kärp) *vi.* [**< ON** *karpa*, to brag] to find fault in a petty or nagging way —**carp'er** *n.*

car-pal (kär'pəl) *adj.* of the carpus —**n.** a bone of the carpus

carpal tunnel syndrome a condition of a pinched nerve in the wrist, often caused by repetitive movement

car-pel (kär'pəl) *n.* [**< Gr** *karpos*, fruit] a simple pistil, regarded as a modified leaflike structure

car-pen-ter (kär'pən tər) *n.* [**< L** *carpen-tum*, a cart] one who builds and repairs wooden things, esp. buildings, ships, etc. —**car'pen-try** (-trē) *n.*

carpenter ant a large ant that gnaws holes in trees, wooden buildings, etc. for its nest

car-pet (kär'pət) *n.* [**< L** *carpere*, to card] 1 a heavy fabric for covering a floor 2 anything that covers like a carpet —**vt.** to cover as with a carpet —**on the carpet** being reprimanded

car'pet-bag' *n.* an old-fashioned traveling bag, made of carpeting

car'pet-bag'ger *n.* a politician, promoter, etc. from the outside whose influence is resented

car'pet-ing *n.* carpets or carpet fabric

car pool a plan by a group to rotate the use of their cars, as for going to work —**car'pool'** *vi.*, *vt.*

car-port (kär'pört') *n.* an automobile shelter built as a roof extending from the side of a building

car-pus (kär'pəs) *n.*, *pl.* -pi' (-pī') [**< Gr** *karpos*, wrist] *Anat.* the wrist, or the wrist bones

car-rel or **car-rell** (kar'əl) *n.* [**< ML** *carula*] a small enclosure in a library,

for privacy in studying or reading

car-riage (kar'ij) *n.* [**ult.** **< L** *carrus*, chariot] 1 a carrying; transportation 2 the manner of carrying oneself; bearing 3 *a)* a horse-drawn passenger vehicle, esp. one with four wheels *b)* a baby carriage 4 a moving part, as on a typewriter, that supports and shifts something

car-ri-er (kar'ē ər) *n.* 1 one that carries 2 one in the business of transporting 3 one that transmits disease germs 4 AIRCRAFT CARRIER 5 *a)* a telephone-service company *b)* an insurance company

carrier pigeon former name for HOMING PIGEON

car-ri-on (kar'ē ən) *n.* [**< L** *caro*, flesh] the decaying flesh of a dead body

Car-roll (kar'əl), **Lew-is** (lōw'is) (pseud. of C. L. Dodgson) 1832-98; Eng. writer

car-rot (kar'ət) *n.* [**< Gr** *karōton*] 1 a plant with an edible, fleshy, orange-red root 2 the root

car-rou-sel (kar'ə sel') *n.* alt. sp. of CAROUSEL

car-ry (kar'ē) *vt.* -ried, -ry-ing [**< L** *car-rus*, chariot] 1 to hold or support 2 to take from one place to another 3 to keep with one [*to carry an ID*] 4 to transmit [*air carries sounds*] 5 to transfer or extend 6 to have as a quality, consequence, etc. [*to carry a guarantee*] 7 to bear (oneself) in a specified way 8 to win (an election, argument, etc.) 9 *a)* to keep in stock *b)* to keep on one's account books, etc. 10 to publish or broadcast [*to carry a syndicated column, a TV show, etc.*] —**vi.** to cover a range or distance: said of a voice, missile, etc. —**n.**, *pl.* -ries the distance covered by a gun, ball, etc. —**be (or get) carried away** to become very emotional or enthusiastic —**carry on** 1 to engage in 2 to go on (*with*) 3 [**Inf.**] to behave wildly or childishly —**carry out (or through)** 1 to put (plans, etc.) into practice 2 to accomplish —**carry over** to postpone

carrying charge interest paid on the balance owed in installment buying

car'ry-on' *adj.* small enough to fit under an airplane seat or in an overhead compartment —**n.** a piece of carry-on luggage

car'ry-out' *adj.* designating or of prepared food sold as by a restaurant to be consumed elsewhere

car'ry-o-ver *n.* something carried over or left over

car seat a seat in an automobile, specif., a portable seat for securing a small child

car'sick' *adj.* nauseated from riding in an automobile, bus, etc.

Car-son City (kär'sən) capital of Nevada, in the W part: pop. 40,000

cart (kärt) *n.* [**< ON** *kartr*] 1 a small wagon, carriage, etc. 2 a handcart —**vt.**, **vi.** to carry as in a cart, truck, etc.; transport

cart-age (kärt'ij) *n.* 1 the work of carting 2 the charge for this

carte blanche (kärt' blänsh') [Fr, lit., white card] full authority or freedom

car·tel (kär tel') *n.* [< Ger < Fr] an association of businesses in an international monopoly; trust

Car·ter (kärt'ər), **Jim·my** (jim'ē) (legal name *James Earl Carter, Jr.*) 1924- ; 39th president of the U.S. (1977-81)

car·ti·lage (kärt' l ij) *n.* [< L *cartilago*] tough, elastic tissue forming parts of the skeleton; gristle —**car·ti·lag'i·nous** (-aj'ə nə) *adj.*

car·tog·ra·phy (kär tæg'rə fē) *n.* [see CARD¹ & -GRAPHY] the art of making maps or charts —**car·tog'ra·pher** *n.*

car·ton (kärt'n) *n.* [Fr < It *carta*, card] a cardboard box or container

car·toon (kär tōon') *n.* [< Fr: see prec.] 1 a drawing caricaturing a person or event 2 *a*) COMIC STRIP *b*) an animated cartoon —*vi.* to draw a cartoon —**car·toon'ist** *n.*

car·tridge (kär'trij) *n.* [< Fr < It *carta*, card] 1 a cylindrical case containing the charge and primer, and usually the projectile, for a firearm 2 a small container, as for camera film or ink for a pen

cart'wheel' *n.* a handspring performed sideways

carve (kärv) *vt.* carved, *carv'ing* [OE *ceorfan*] 1 to make or shape by or as by cutting 2 to decorate the surface of with cut designs 3 to divide by cutting; slice —*vi.* 1 to carve statues or designs 2 to carve meat —**carv'er** *n.* —**carv'ing** *n.*

car'wash' *n.* an establishment at which automobiles are washed

car·y·at·id (kar'ē at'id) *n., pl. -ids or -ides'* (-ə dēz') [< Gr *karyatides*, priestesses at Karyai, in ancient Greece] a supporting column having the form of a draped female figure

ca·sa·ba (kə sǎ'bə) *n.* [after *Kasaba*, town in Asia Minor] a kind of cultivated melon with a hard, yellow rind

Ca·sa·blan·ca (kas'ə blǎn'kə, kǎ'sə blǎn'kə) seaport in NW Morocco: pop. 1,506,000

Ca·sa·no·va (kaz'ə nō'və, kas'ə-) *n.* [after G. *Casanova* (1725-98), It adventurer] a man who has many love affairs

cas·cade (kas kād') *n.* [Fr < L *cadere*, to fall] 1 a small, steep waterfall 2 anything resembling this, as a shower of sparks —*vt., vi.* -cad'ed, -cad'ing to fall or drop in a cascade

cas·car·a (kas ker'ə) *n.* [Sp *cáscara*, bark] a thorny tree growing on the Pacific coast of the U.S.

case¹ (kās) *n.* [< L *casus*, a chance < *cadere*, to fall] 1 an example or instance [a case of flu] 2 a person being helped, as by a doctor 3 any matter requiring study or investigation 4 *a*) the argument of one side, as in a law court *b*) convincing arguments [he has no case] 5 a lawsuit 6 *Gram.* the syntactic function of a noun or pronoun [nominative, objective, or possessive case] —*vt.* cased, *cas'ing* [Slang] to look over carefully —in any case anyhow —

in case in the event that; if —in case of in the event of —in no case never

case² (kās) *n.* [< L *capsa*, box] 1 a container, as a box 2 a protective cover [a watch case] 3 a full box or its contents [a case of beer] 4 a frame, as for a window —*vt.* cased, *cas'ing* 1 to put in a container 2 to enclose; encase

case'hard'en (-hård'n) *vt.* *Metallurgy* to form a hard surface on (an iron alloy)

ca·se·in (kā'sē in, -sēn') *n.* [< L *caseus*, cheese] a protein that is one of the chief constituents of milk

case'load' *n.* the number of cases handled by a court, social agency, etc.

case'ment (-mənt) *n.* [ult. < OFr *enchassement*] a window frame that opens on hinges along the side

case'work' *n.* social work in which guidance is given in cases of personal or family maladjustment —**case'work'er** *n.*

cash (kash) *n.* [< L *capsa*, box] 1 money that a person actually has; esp., ready money 2 bills and coins 3 money, a check, etc. paid at the time of purchase —*vt.* to give or get cash for —*adj.* of or for cash —**cash in** to exchange for cash

cash·ew (kash'ōō; also, kə shōō') *n.* [< AmInd (Brazil) *acajú*] 1 a tropical tree bearing kidney-shaped nuts 2 the nut

cash·ier¹ (ka shir') *n.* [Fr] a person handling the cash transactions of a bank or store

cash·ier² (ka shir') *vt.* [< LL *cassare*, destroy] to dismiss in dishonor

cash·mere (kash'mir', kəzh'-) *n.* [after *Kashmir*, region in India] 1 a fine carded wool from goats of N India and Tibet 2 a soft, twilled cloth as of this wool

cash register a device, usually with a money drawer, used for registering visibly the amount of a sale

cas·ing (kās'in) *n.* 1 the skin of a sausage 2 the outer covering of a pneumatic tire 3 a frame, as for a door

ca·si·no (kə sē'nō) *n., pl. -nos* [It < *casa*, house] 1 a room or building for dancing, gambling, etc. 2 a card game for two to four players

cask (kask) *n.* [ult. < L *quassare*, shatter] 1 a barrel of any size, esp. one for liquids 2 its contents

cas·ket (kas'kit) *n.* [< NormFr *casse*, box] 1 a small box or chest, as for valuables 2 a coffin

Cas·pi·an (Sea) (kas'pē ən) inland salt sea between Asia and extreme SE Europe

Cas·san·dra (kə san'drə) *n.* *Gr. Myth.* a Trojan prophetess of doom whose prophecies are never believed

cas·sa·va (kə sǎ'və) *n.* [< Fr < Wind *casávi*] 1 a tropical American plant with starchy roots 2 a starch made from these roots, used in tapioca

cas·se·role (kas'ə rōl') *n.* [Fr < Gr *kyathos*, a bowl] 1 a baking dish in which food can be cooked and served 2 the food baked in such a dish

cas·sette (kə set', ka-) *n.* [< NormFr *casse*, box] a case with magnetic tape or film in it, for loading a tape recorder,

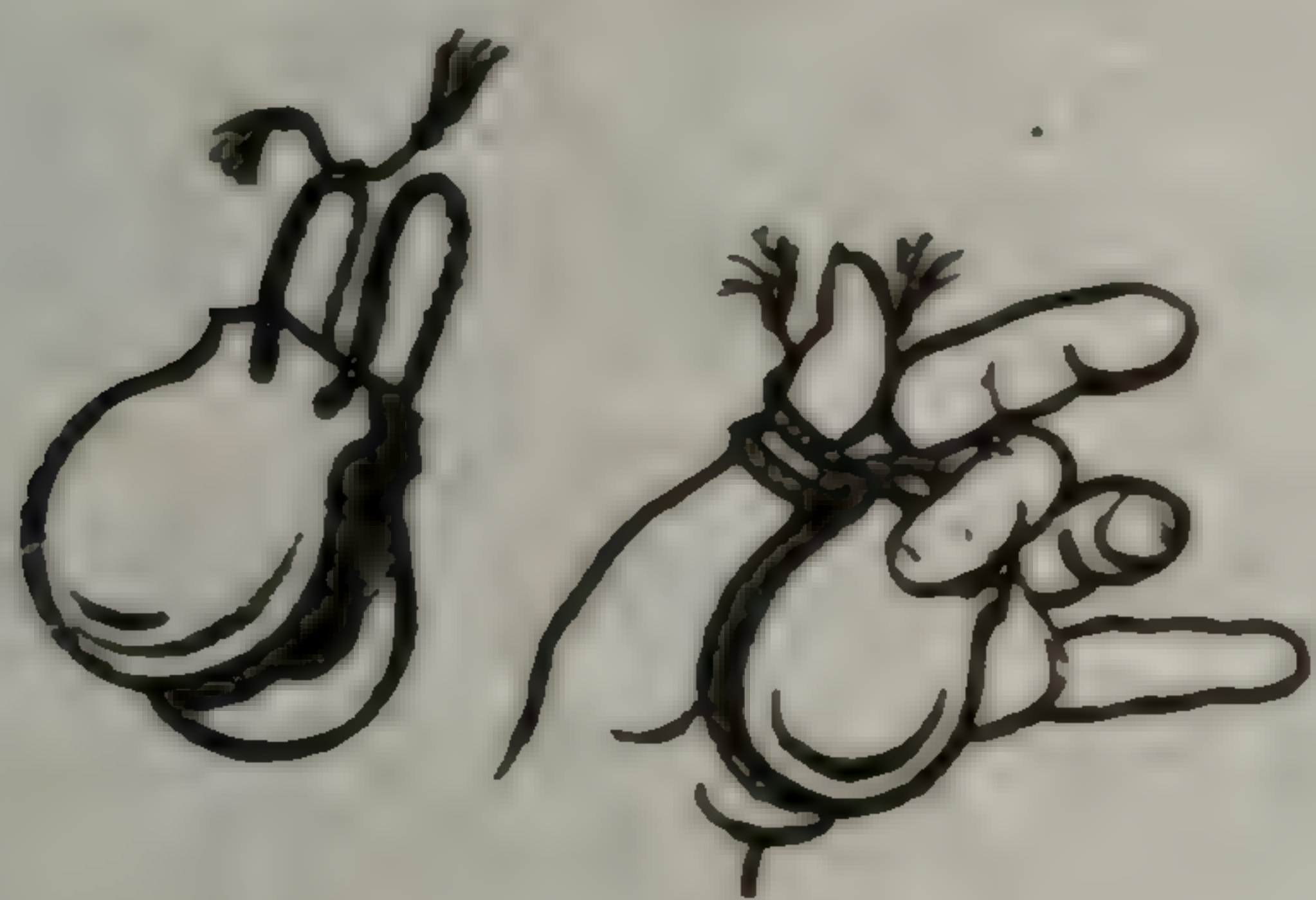
VCR, camera, etc. quickly

cas-sia (kash'ə, kas'ē ə) *n.* [ult. < Heb *qesh'āh*, lit., something scraped off] 1 *a*) the bark of a tree of SE Asia: a source of cinnamon 2 any of various tropical plants whose leaves yield senna

cas-si-no (kə sē'nō) *n.* *alt. sp. of CASINO*

cas-sock (kas'ək) *n.* [prob. < Turk *qazaq*, nomad] a long, closefitting vestment worn by clergymen, etc.

cast-(kast) *vt.* **cast**, **cast'ing** [< ON *kasta*] 1 to throw with force; hurl 2 to deposit (a ballot or vote) 3 to direct [to cast one's eyes] 4 to project [to cast light] 5 to throw off or shed (a skin) 6 to shape (molten metal, etc.) by pouring into a mold 7 to select (an actor) for (a role or play) 8 to calculate —*vi.* to throw —*n.* 1 a casting; throw 2 *a*) something formed in a mold *b*) a mold or impression 3 a plaster form for immobilizing a broken limb 4 the set of actors in a play, movie, etc. 5 an appearance, as of features 6 a kind; quality 7 a tinge; shade —**cast about** to look (for) —**cast aside** (or away or off) to discard



CASTANETS

cas-ta-nets (kas'tə nets') *pl.n.* [< Sp < L *castanea*, chestnut: from the shape] a pair of small, hollowed pieces of hard wood or ivory, clicked together in the hand in time to music

cast'a-way *n.* a shipwrecked person — *adj.* 1 discarded 2 shipwrecked

caste (kast) *n.* [Fr < L *castus*, pure] 1 any of the hereditary Hindu social classes of a formerly segregated system of India 2 any exclusive group 3 rigid class distinction based on birth, wealth, etc. —**lose caste** to lose social status

cast'er *n.* 1 a container for vinegar, oil, etc. at the table 2 any of a set of small wheels for supporting and moving furniture

cas-ti-gate (kas'ti gāt') *vt.* -gat'ed, -gat'ing [< L *castigare*] to rebuke severely, esp. by public criticism — **cas'ti-ga'tion** *n.* —**cas'ti-ga'tor** *n.*

cast'ing *n.* a thing, esp. of metal, cast in a mold

cast iron a hard, brittle alloy of iron used for casting —**cast-i'ron** *adj.*

cas-tle (kas'əl) *n.* [< L *castrum*, fort] 1 a large, fortified building or group of buildings 2 any massive dwelling like this 3 Chess ROOK²

cast'off *adj.* discarded; abandoned —*n.* a person or thing cast off

cas-tor-oil plant (kas'tər cil') a tropical plant with large seeds that yield an oil

(castor oil) used as a cathartic

cas-trate (kas'trāt') *vt.* -trat'ed, -trat'ing [< L *castrare*] to remove the testicles of; emasculate —**cas-tra'tion** *n.*

cas-u-al (kazh'ō əl) *adj.* [< L *casus*, chance] 1 happening by chance; not planned; incidental 2 occasional 3 careless or cursory 4 nonchalant 5 *a*) informal *b*) for informal use —**cas'u-al-ly** *adv.* —**cas'u-al-ness** *n.*

cas-u-al-ty (kazh'ō əl tē) *n., pl. -ties* 1 an accident, esp. a fatal one 2 a member of the armed forces killed, wounded, captured, etc. 3 anyone hurt or killed in an accident 4 anything lost, destroyed, etc.

cas-u-ist-ry (kazh'ō is trē) *n., pl. -ries* [< L *casus*, CASE¹] subtle but false reasoning, esp. about moral issues; sophistry —**cas'u-ist** *n.*

cat (kat) *n.* [OE] 1 a small, soft-furred animal, often kept as a pet or for killing mice 2 any flesh-eating mammal related to this, as the lion, tiger, leopard, etc. 3 a spiteful woman —**let the cat out of the bag** to let a secret be found out

cat-a-clysm (kat'ə kliz'əm) *n.* [< Gr *kata-*, down + *klyzein*, to wash] any sudden, violent change, as in war — **cat'a-clys'mic** (-kliz'mik) *adj.*

cat-a-comb (kat'ə kōm') *n.* [< ? L *cata*, by + *tumba*, tomb] a gallery in an underground burial place: *usually used in pl.*

cat'a-falque' (-falk', -fôlk') *n.* [Fr < It *catafalco*, funeral canopy] a wooden framework on which a body in a coffin lies in state

cat'a-lep'sy (-lep'sē) *n.* [< Gr *katalēpsis*, a seizing] a condition of muscle rigidity and sudden, temporary loss of consciousness, as in epilepsy —**cat'a-lep'tic** *adj., n.*

cat-a-log or **cat-a-logue** (kat'ə lôg') *n.* [< Gr *kata-*, down + *legein*, to count] a complete list, as a card file of the books in a library, a list of articles for sale, etc. —*vt., vi.* -loged' or -logued', -log'ing or -logu'ing to arrange (an item or items) in a catalog —**cat'a-log'er** or **cat'a-logu'er** *n.*

ca-tal-pa (kə tal'pə) *n.* [< AmInd] a tree with heart-shaped leaves and slender, beanlike pods

ca-tal-y-sis (kə tal'ə sis) *n., pl. -ses' (-sēz')* [< Gr *katalysis*, dissolution] the speeding up or, sometimes, slowing down of a chemical reaction by adding a substance which itself is not changed thereby

cat-a-lyst (kat'ə list) *n.* 1 a substance serving as the agent in catalysis 2 anything bringing about or hastening a result —**cat'a-lyt'ic** (-lit'ik) *adj.*

catalytic converter a chemical filter connected to the exhaust system of an automotive vehicle, to reduce air pollution

cat-a-ma-ran (kat'ə mə ran') *n.* [Tamil *kaṭṭumaram*] 1 a narrow log raft propelled by sails or paddles 2 a boat like this with two parallel hulls

cat·a·mount (kat'ə mount') *n.* a wildcat, esp. a cougar or lynx

cat·a·pult (kat'ə pult') *n.* [*< Gr kata-*, down + *pallein*, to hurl] 1 an ancient military contrivance for throwing large stones, etc. 2 a device for launching an airplane, missile, etc. as from a deck or ramp —*vt.* to shoot or launch as from a catapult —*vi.* to leap

cat·a·ract (kat'ə rakt') *n.* [*< Gr kata-*, down + *rhassein*, to strike or ? *arassein*, to smite] 1 a large waterfall 2 *a)* an eye disease in which the lens becomes opaque, causing partial or total blindness *b)* the opaque area

ca·tas·tro·phe (kə tas'trə fē) *n.* [*< Gr kata-*, down + *strephein*, to turn] any great and sudden disaster —**cat·a·stroph·ic** (kat'ə strəf'ik) *adj.*

cat·a·ton·ic (kat'ə tən'ik) *adj.* [*< Gr kata-*, down + *tonos*, tension] of or having a psychiatric condition involving catalepsy —*n.* a catatonic person

cat'bird' *n.* a slate-gray North American songbird with a call like a cat's

cat'boat' *n.* a sailboat with a single sail on a mast set well forward

cat'call' *n.* a shrill shout or whistle expressing derision, etc. —*vi.* to make catcalls

catch (kach, kech) *vt.* caught, catch'ing [*< L capere*, to take hold] 1 to seize and hold; capture 2 to take by a trap 3 to deceive 4 to surprise in some act 5 *a)* to get to in time [to catch a train] *b)* to overtake 6 to lay hold of; grab [to catch a ball] 7 to become infected with [he caught a cold] 8 to understand 9 to cause to be entangled or snagged 10 [Inf.] to see, hear, etc. —*vi.* 1 to become held, fastened, etc. 2 to take hold, as fire 3 to keep hold, as a lock —*n.* 1 a catching 2 a thing that catches 3 something caught 4 one worth catching, esp. as a spouse 5 a break in the voice 6 [Inf.] a tricky qualification or condition —**catch at** to seize desperately —**catch on** 1 to understand 2 to become popular —**catch up** 1 to seize; snatch 2 to overtake

catch'all' *n.* a container or place for holding all sorts of things

catch'er *n.* *Baseball* the player behind home plate, who catches pitched balls

catch'ing *adj.* 1 contagious; infectious 2 attractive

catch'phrase' *n.* a phrase that has become popular

catch'up' (-up') *n.* KETCHUP

catch'y *adj.* -i·er, -i·est 1 attracting attention and easily remembered [a catchy tune] 2 tricky

cat·e·chism (kat'ə kiz'əm) *n.* [*< Gr kata-*, thoroughly + *ēchein*, to sound] 1 a handbook of questions and answers for teaching the principles of a religion 2 a close questioning

cat·e·gor·i·cal (kat'ə gôr'i kəl) *adj.* 1 positive; explicit: said of a statement, etc. 2 of, as, or in a category —**cat'e·gor'i·cal·ly** *adv.*

cat·e·go·rize (kat'ə gə rīz') *vt.* -rized', -riz'ing to place in a category; classify

cat'e·go'ry (-gôr'ē) *n.*, *pl.* -ries [*< Gr katēgorein*, to assert] a division in a scheme of classification

ca·ter (kāt'ər) *vi.* [*< L ad-*, to + *capere*, take hold] 1 to provide food and service, as for parties 2 to seek to gratify another's needs or desires: with *to* —*vt.* to serve as caterer for (a banquet, etc.) —**ca'ter·er** *n.*

cat·er·cor·nered (kat'ə kôr'nərd, kat'ē-) *adj.* [*< OFr catre*, four + CORNERED] diagonal —*adv.* diagonally Also **cat'er·cor·ner**

cat·er·pil·lar (kat'ər pil'ər, kat'ə-) *n.* [*< L catta pilosus*, hairy cat] the wormlike larva of a butterfly, moth, etc. —[C-] *trademark* for a kind of tractor for rough or muddy ground

cat·er·waul (kat'ər wôl') *vi.* [prob. echoic] to make a shrill sound like that of a cat; wail —*n.* such a sound

cat'fight' *n.* [Inf.] a fight between two women

cat'fish' *n.*, *pl.* -fish' or (for different species) -fish'es a fish with long, whisker-like feelers about the mouth

cat'gut' *n.* a tough thread made from dried intestines, as of sheep, and used for surgical sutures, etc.

ca·thar·sis (kə thär'sis) *n.* [*< Gr katharos*, pure] a relieving of emotional tensions, as through the arts or psychotherapy

ca·thar'tic (-tik) *adj.* purging —*n.* a medicine for purging the bowels; purgative

ca·the·dral (kə thē'drəl) *n.* [*< Gr kata-*, down + *hedra*, a seat] 1 the main church of a bishop's see 2 any large, imposing church

cath·e·ter (kath'ət ər) *n.* [*< Gr kata-*, down + *hienai*, to send] a slender tube inserted into a body passage, as into the bladder for drawing off urine —**cath'e·ter·ize'** (-īz'), -ized', -iz'ing, *vt.* —**cath'e·ter·i·za'tion** *n.*

cath·ode (kath'ōd') *n.* [*< Gr < kata-*, down + *-ODE*] 1 the negative electrode in an electrolytic cell 2 the electron emitter in an electron tube 3 the positive terminal of a battery

cathode rays streams of electrons projected from a cathode: they produce X-rays when they strike solids

cath'ode-ray' tube a vacuum tube in which a stream of electrons can be focused on a fluorescent screen: such tubes are used as picture tubes, etc.

cath·o·lic (kath' ə lik, kath'lik) *adj.* [*< Gr kata-*, completely + *holos*, whole] 1 all-inclusive; universal 2 broad in sympathies, tastes, etc. 3 [C-] ROMAN CATHOLIC —*n.* [C-] ROMAN CATHOLIC —**Ca·thol·i·cism** (kə thāl'ə siz'əm) *n.* —**cath·o·lic·i·ty** (kath'ə lis'i tē) *n.*

cat·i·on (kat'īən) *n.* [*< Gr kata-*, down + *ienai*, to go] a positively charged ion: in electrolysis, cations move toward the cathode

cat·kin (kat'kin) *n.* [*< Du kätte*, cat] a drooping, scaly spike of small flowers without petals, as on poplars, walnuts, etc.

cat'nap' *n.* a short nap; doze —*vi.* -napped', -nap'ping to doze briefly

cat'nip' *n.* [CAT + dial. *nep*, catnip] an herb of the mint family: cats like its odor

cat-o'-nine-tails (kat'ə nīn'tālz') *n., pl. -tails'* a whip made of nine knotted cords attached to a handle

CAT scan (kat) [c(omputerized) a(xial) t(omography)] CT SCAN —CAT scanner —CAT scanning

cat's cradle a game in which a string looped over the fingers is transferred back and forth on the hands of the players so as to form designs

Cats-kill Mountains (kats'kil') mountain range in SE New York: also Cats'kills'

cat's-paw (kats'pō') *n.* a person used to do distasteful or unlawful work

cat-sup (kat'səp) *n.* KETCHUP

cat'tail' *n.* a tall marsh plant with long, brown, fuzzy spikes

cat-tle (kat'tl) *pl.n.* [ult. < L *caput*, head] 1 [Archaic] farm animals 2 cows, bulls, steers, or oxen —cat'tle-man (-mən), *pl. -men* (-mən), *n.*

cat-ty (kat'ē) *adj. -ti-er, -ti-est* 1 of or like a cat 2 spiteful, mean, malicious, etc. —cat'ti-ness *n.*

cat'ty-cornered *adj., adv.* CATER-CORNERED: also cat'ty-corner

cat'walk' *n.* a narrow, elevated walk

Cau-ca-sian (kô kă'zhən) *adj.* 1 of the Caucasus or its people, etc. 2 CAUCASOID —*n.* 1 a person born or living in the Caucasus 2 CAUCASOID

Cau-ca-soid (kô'kə soid') *adj.* designating or of one of the major geographical varieties of human beings, loosely called the *white race* —*n.* a member of the Caucasoid population

Cau-ca-sus (kô'kə səs) 1 border region between SE Europe & W Asia, between the Black and Caspian seas: often called the Caucasus 2 mountain range in this region

cau-cus (kô'kəs) *n.* [< ?] 1 a meeting of a party or faction to decide on policy, pick candidates, etc. 2 the group attending such a meeting 3 a faction of politicians —*vi. -cused* or *-cussed, -cusing* or *-cus-sing* to hold a caucus

cau-dal (kôd'l) *adj.* [< L *cauda*, tail + -AL] of, like, at, or near the tail

caught (kôt) *vt., vi. pt. & pp. of CATCH*

caul (kôl) *n.* the membrane enveloping the head of a child at birth

caul-dron (kôl'drən) *n. alt. sp. of CALDRON*

cau-li-flow-er (kô'lə flou'ər) *n.* [< It *cavolo*, cabbage + *fiore*, flower] 1 a variety of cabbage with a dense white head of fleshy flower stalks 2 the head, eaten as a vegetable

caulk (kôk) *vt.* [< L *calx*, a heel] to stop up (cracks, etc.) of (a boat, etc.) as with a puttylike sealant or oakum —*n.* a soft, puttylike compound used in caulking: also caulking compound —caulk'er *n.*

caus-al (kôz'al) *adj.* 1 of, being, or expressing a cause 2 relating to cause and effect —cau-sal-i-ty (kô zal'i tē), *pl. -ties, n.* —caus'al-ly *adv.*

cau-sa-tion (kô ză'shən) *n.* 1 a causing

2 a causal agency; anything producing an effect

cause (kôz) *n.* [< L *causa*] 1 anything producing an effect or result 2 a reason or motive for producing an effect 3 any objective or movement that people are interested in and support 4 *Law* a case to be resolved by a court —*vt. caused, caus'ing* to be the cause of; bring about —caus'a-tive *adj.* —cause'less *adj.* —caus'er *n.*

cau-se-rie (kô'zə rē') *n.* [Fr] 1 a chat 2 a short, informal piece of writing

cause-way (kôz'wā') *n.* [ult. < L *calx*, lime + WAY] a raised path or road, as across wet ground or shallow water

caus-tic (kôs'tik) *adj.* [< Gr *kaiein*, to burn] 1 that can burn tissue by chemical action; corrosive 2 sarcastic; biting —*n.* a caustic substance —caus'ti-cal-ly *adv.* —caus-tic'i-ty (-tis'i tē) *n.*

cau-ter-ize (kôt'ər iz') *vt. -ized', -iz'ing* [see prec.] to burn with a hot needle, a laser, a caustic substance, etc. so as to destroy dead tissue, etc. —cau'ter-i-za'tion *n.*

cau-tion (kô'shən) *n.* [< L *cautio*] 1 a warning 2 wariness; prudence —*vt.* to warn —cau'tion-ary *adj.*

cau-tious (kô'shəs) *adj.* full of caution; careful to avoid danger —cau'tious-ly *adv.* —cau'tious-ness *n.*

cav-al-cade (kav'al kād', kav'al kād') *n.* [Fr < L *caballus*, horse] a procession, as of horsemen, carriages, etc.

cav-a-li-er (kav'ə lir') *n.* [Fr: see prec.] 1 an armed horseman; knight 2 a gallant gentleman, esp. a lady's escort —*adj.* 1 casual or indifferent toward important matters 2 arrogant —cav'a-li-er'ly *adv.*

cav-al-ry (kav'al rē) *n., pl. -ries* [< Fr: see CAVALCADE] combat troops mounted originally on horses but now often riding in motorized armored vehicles —cav'al-ry-man (-mən), *pl. -men* (-mən), *n.*

cave (kāv) *n.* [< L *cavus*, hollow] a hollow place inside the earth; cavern —*vi. caved, cav'ing* to cave in —cave in 1 to collapse 2 [Inf.] to give in; yield

ca-ve-at emp-tor (kā'vē at' emp'tôr') [L] let the buyer beware

cāve'-in' *n.* 1 a caving in 2 a place where the ground, etc. has caved in

cave man a prehistoric human being of the Stone Age who lived in caves

cav-ern (kav'ərn) *n.* a cave, esp. a large cave —cav'ern-ous *adj.*

cav-i-ar or **cav-i-are** (kav'ē ār') *n.* [Fr < Pers *khāya*, egg + -dār, bearing] the salted eggs of sturgeon, etc. eaten as an appetizer

cav-il (kav'al) *vi. -iled* or *-illed, -il-ing* or *-il-ling* [< L *cavilla*, jeering] to object unnecessarily; quibble —*n.* a trivial objection; quibble —cav'il-er or cav'il-ler *n.*

cav-i-ty (kav'i tē) *n., pl. -ties* [see CAVE] 1 a natural hollow place within the body 2 a hollow place, as one caused by decay in a tooth

ca-vort (kə vōrt') *vi.* [< ?] 1 to prance or caper 2 to romp; frolic

caw (kô) *n.* [echoic] the harsh cry of a crow —*vi.* to make this sound

cay·enne (pepper) (kī en', kâ-) [< AmInd (Brazil) *kynnhā*] very hot red pepper made from the dried fruit of a pepper plant

cay·use (kī'yōōs', kī yōōs') *n., pl. -us'es* or *-use'* [< AmInd tribal name] a small Western horse used by cowboys

CB (sē'bē') *adj.* [c(itizens') b(and)] designating or of shortwave radio frequencies set aside by the FCC for local use by private persons or businesses

cc *abbrev.* 1 carbon copy 2 cubic centimeter(s)

CD (sē'dē') *n.* a compact disc

Cd *Chem. symbol for cadmium*

CDC *abbrev.* Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Cdn *abbrev.* Canadian

CD-ROM (sē'dē'rām') *n.* a compact disc on which stored data can be accessed

cease (sēs) *vt., vi.* ceased, ceas'ing [see CEDE] to end; stop

cease'-fire' *n.* a temporary cessation of warfare; truce

cease'less *adj.* unceasing; continual

ce·cum (sē'kəm) *n., pl. -ca* (-kə) [< L *caecus*, blind] the pouch at the beginning of the large intestine

ce·dar (sē'dər) *n.* [< Gr *kedros*] 1 a pine tree having fragrant, durable wood 2 its wood —*adj.* of cedar

cede (sēd) *vt.* ced'ed, ced'ing [< L *cedere*, to yield] 1 to surrender formally 2 to transfer the title of

ce·dil·la (sə dil'ə) *n.* [Sp dim. of *zeda*, a zeta or z] a hooklike mark put under *c*, as in some French words (Ex.: *façade*) to show that it has an *s* sound

ceil·ing (sēl'in) *n.* [< L *caelum*, heaven] 1 the inside top part of a room, opposite the floor 2 an upper limit [a price ceiling] 3 *Aeronautics* cloud cover affecting visibility, or the height of this —*hit the ceiling* [Slang] to lose one's temper

cel·an·dine (sel'an dīn', -dēn') *n.* 1 a plant related to the poppy, with yellow flowers 2 a plant of the buttercup family, with yellow flowers

cel·e·brate (sel'ə brāt') *vt. -brat'ed, -brat'ing* [< L *celebrare*, to honor] 1 to perform (a ritual, etc.) 2 to commemorate (an anniversary, holiday, etc.) with festivity 3 to honor publicly —*vi.* to mark a happy occasion with festive activities —**cel'e-brant** (-brant) *n.* —**cel·e·bra'tion** *n.* —**cel'e·bra'tor** *n.*

cel'e-brat'ed *adj.* famous; renowned

ce·leb·ri·ty (sə leb'rə tē) *n.* 1 fame 2 *pl. -ties* a famous person

ce·ler·i·ty (sə ler'i tē) *n.* [< L *celer*, swift] swiftiness; speed

cel·er·y (sel'ər ē, sel'rē) *n.* [< Gr *selinon*, parsley] a plant whose crisp leafstalks are eaten as a vegetable

ce·les·tial (sə les'chəl) *adj.* [< L *caelum*, heaven] 1 of or in the sky or universe 2 of heaven; divine 3 of the finest kind

cel·i·ba·cy (sel'ə bə sē) *n.* 1 the state of being unmarried 2 sexual abstinence

cel·i·bate (sel'ə bət) *n.* [< L *caelebs*] 1 an unmarried person 2 one who abstains from sexual intercourse —*adj.* of or in a state of celibacy

cell (sel) *n.* [< L *cella*] 1 a small room, as in a prison 2 a small hollow, as in a honeycomb 3 a small unit of protoplasm: all plants and animals are made up of one or more cells 4 a container holding an electrolyte, used to generate electricity 5 a small unit of an organization —**celled** *adj.*

cel·lar (sel'ər) *n.* [see prec.] a room or rooms below ground and usually under a building

cel·lo (chel'ō) *n., pl. -los* or *-li* (-ē) [< VIO-LONCELLO] an instrument of the violin family, between the viola and double bass in size and pitch —**cel'list** *n.*

cel·lo·phone (sel'ə fān') *n.* [< CELLULOSE] a thin, clear material made from cellulose, used as a wrapping

cell'phone' *n.* short for CELLULAR PHONE

cel·lu·lar (sel'yō lər) *adj.* of, like, or containing a cell or cells

cellular phone a mobile radio phone used in a communications system of geographically distributed transmitters: also **cellular telephone**

cel·lu·lite (sel'yō līt') *n.* [Fr] fatty deposits on the hips and thighs: a non-medical term

cel·lu·loid (sel'yō loid') *n.* [fol. + -OID] a tough, flammable plastic substance used, esp. formerly, for making various articles, photographic film, etc.

cel·lu·lose (sel'yō lōs') *n.* [Fr < L *cella*, cell + -OSE¹] the chief substance in the cell walls of plants, used in making paper, textiles, etc.

cellulose acetate any of several non-flammable thermoplastics, used in making lacquers, etc.

ce·lo·sia (sə lō'shə, -sē ə) *n.* an annual garden plant with large clusters of tiny, brilliant red or yellow flowers

Cel·si·us (sel'sē əs) *adj.* [after A. Celsius (1701-44), Swed astronomer, the inventor] designating or of a thermometer on which 0° is the freezing point and 100° is the boiling point of water

Celt (kelt; also selt) *n.* [< L] a Celtic-speaking person

Celt'ic *adj.* of the Celts, their languages, etc. —*n.* a subfamily of languages including Gaelic and Welsh

ce·ment (sə ment') *n.* [< L *caementum*, rough stone] 1 a powdered substance of lime and clay, mixed with water and sand to make mortar or with water, sand, and gravel to make concrete: it hardens upon drying 2 CONCRETE 3



CELLO

anything that bonds —*vt.* 1 to unite as with cement 2 to cover with cement

cem-e-ter-y (sem'ə ter'ē) *n.*, *pl.* -ies [*<* Gr *<* *koiman*, to put to sleep] a place for the burial of the dead

cen-o-bite (sen'ə bīt') *n.* [*<* Gr *<* *koinos*, common + *bios*, life] a member of a religious order living in a monastery or convent

cen-o-taph (sen'ə taf') *n.* [*<* Gr *kenos*, empty + *taphos*, tomb] a monument honoring a dead person whose remains are elsewhere

Ce-no-zo-ic (sē'nə zō'ik, sen'ə-) *adj.* [*ceno-* (*<* Gr *kainos*, recent) + *ZO(O)-* + *-IC*] designating the geologic era that includes the present, during which the various mammals have developed

cen-ser (sen'sər) *n.* a container in which incense is burned

cen-sor (sen'sər) *n.* [*L <* *censere*, to judge] an official with the power to examine literature, mail, etc. and remove or prohibit anything considered obscene, objectionable, etc. —*vt.* to subject (a book, etc.) to a censor's examination —**cen'sor-ship** *n.*

cen-so-ri-ous (sen sōr'ē əs) *adj.* inclined to find fault; harshly critical

cen-sure (sen'shər) *n.* [*<* L *censor*, censor] strong disapproval; condemnation —*vt.* -sured, -sur-ing to condemn as wrong —**cen'sur-a-ble** *adj.*

cen-sus (sen'səs) *n.* [*L <* *censere*, enroll] an official count of population and gathering of demographic data

cent¹ (sent) *n.* [*<* L *centum*, hundred] a 100th part of a dollar, or a coin of this value; penny

cent² *abbrev.* century; centuries

cen-taur (sen'tōr') *n.* [*<* Gr *Kentauros*] *Gr. Myth.* a monster with a man's head, trunk, and arms, and a horse's body and legs

cen-ta-vo (sen tā'vō) *n.*, *pl.* -vos [*Sp.* a hundredth *<* L *centum*, hundred] a 100th part of the monetary unit of various countries

cen-te-nar-i-an (sen'tə ner'ē ən) *n.* [*<* fol.] a person at least 100 years old

cen-te-nar-y (sen'tə ner'ē, sen ten'ər ē) *adj.* [*<* L *<* *centum*, hundred] 1 of a century 2 of a centennial —*n.*, *pl.* -ies CENTENNIAL

cen-ten-ni-al (sen ten'ē əl) *adj.* [*<* L *centum*, hundred + *annus*, year + *-AL*] of or lasting 100 years —*n.* a 100th anniversary or its commemoration

cen-ter (sent'ər) *n.* [*<* Gr *kentron*, sharp point] 1 a point equally distant from all points on the circumference of a circle or surface of a sphere 2 a pivot 3 the approximate middle point or part of anything 4 a focal point of activity 5 [often C-] a group or position between the left (liberals) and right (conservatives) 6 *Sports* a player whose position is at the center of the line or playing area —*vt.* 1 to place in or near the center 2 to gather to one place —*vi.* to be focused

cen'ter-board *n.* a movable board or plate that, when lowered through a slot in the floor of a sailboat, functions like a keel

cen'ter-fold *n.* the center facing pages of a magazine, often with an extra fold, showing a photograph, as of a nude woman or man

center of gravity that point in a body or system around which its weight is evenly balanced

cen'ter-piece *n.* an ornament for the center of a table

centi- [*L*] combining form 1 one hundred 2 a 100th part of

cen-ti-grade (sen'tə grād') *adj.* [*Fr.* see prec. & GRADE] CELSIUS

cen-time (sän'tēm'; *Fr* sän tēm') *n.* [*Fr*] a 100th part of a franc

cen-ti-me-ter (sen'tə mēt'ər) *n.* [*Fr.* see CENTI- & METER¹] a unit of measure, ~~the~~ meter. *Brit. sp.* cen'ti-metre

cen-ti-pede (sen'tə pēd') *n.* [*Fr <* L *centi-*, CENTI- + *pes*, FOOT] an elongated arthropod with a pair of legs for each body segment

cen-tral (sen'trəl) *adj.* [*L centralis*] 1 in, near, or of the center 2 equally accessible from various points 3 main; basic 4 of a controlling source in a system —**cen-tral'i-ty** (-tral'i tē) *n.* —**cen'tral-ly** *adv.*

Central African Republic country in central Africa: 240,324 sq. mi.; pop. 2,568,000

Central America part of North America between Mexico and South America —**Central American**

central city the crowded, industrial, central area of a large city

cen'tral-ize (-īz') *vt.* -ized', -iz'ing 1 to make central; bring to a center 2 to organize under one control —*vi.* to become centralized —**cen'tral-i-za'tion** *n.* —**cen'tral-iz'er** *n.*

cen-tre (sent'ər) *n.*, *vt.*, *vi.* -tred, -tring *Brit. sp. of* CENTER

centri- combining form CENTRO-

cen-trif-u-gal (sen trif'ə gəl) *adj.* [*<* prec. + L *fugere*, to flee + *-AL*] using or acted on by a force (centrifugal force) that tends to make rotating bodies move away from the center of rotation

cen-tri-fuge (sen'trə fyōōj') *n.* a machine using centrifugal force to separate particles of varying density

cen-trip-e-tal (sen trip'ət'l) *adj.* [*<* CENTRI- + L *petere*, rush at] using or acted on by a force (centripetal force) that tends to make rotating bodies move toward the center of rotation

cen-trist (sen'trist) *n.* a person with moderate political opinions —**cen'trism** *n.*

centro- [*<* L *centrum*, center] combining form center

cen-tu-ri-on (sen toor'ē ən) *n.* [see fol.] the commanding officer of an ancient Roman military unit, originally of 100 men

cen-tu-ry (sen'chə rē) *n.*, *pl.* -ries [*L <* *centum*, hundred] a period of 100 years, esp. as reckoned from A.D. 1

CEO *abbrev.* chief executive officer

ce-phal-ic (sə fal'ik) *adj.* [*<* Gr *<* *kephalē*, head] 1 of the head or skull 2

in, on, near, or toward the head

cephalo- [see prec.] *combining form* the head, skull, or brain

ce·ram·ic (sə ram'ik) *adj.* [Gr < *keramos*, potter's clay] 1 of pottery, porcelain, etc. 2 of ceramics —*n.* 1 [pl., with *sing v.*] the art or work of making pottery, etc. of baked clay 2 an object made of baked clay: *often used in pl.*

ce·ram·ist (ser'ə mist, sə ram'ist) *n.* one who works in ceramics; ceramic artist: also **ce·ram·i·cist** (sə ram'ə sist)

ce·re·al (sir'ē əl) *adj.* [< L *Cerealis*, of Ceres, Rom goddess of agriculture] of grain —*n.* 1 any grain used for food, as wheat, rice, etc. 2 any grass producing such grain 3 food made from grain, as oatmeal

ce·re·bel·lum (ser'ə bel'əm) *n., pl. -lums or -la (-ə)* [L, dim. of *cerebrum*] the section of the brain behind and below the cerebrum

ce·re·bral (ser'ə brəl, sə rē'-) *adj.* 1 of the brain or cerebrum 2 of, by, or for the intellect

cerebral palsy a muscular disorder resulting from damage to the nervous system, esp. at birth

ce·re·brate (ser'ə brāt') *vi.* -brat'ed, -brat'ing [< L *cerebrum*, the brain + -ATE¹] to think —**ce·re·bra'tion** *n.*

ce·re·brum (ser'ə brəm, sə rē'brəm) *n., pl. -brums or -bra (-brə)* [L] the upper, main part of the brain of vertebrates

ce·re·ment (ser'ə mənt, sir'mənt) *n.* [< Gr *kēros*, wax] [usually pl.] a shroud for a dead person

ce·re·mo·ni·al (ser'ə mō'nē əl) *adj.* of or consisting of ceremony; formal —*n.* 1 a system of rites 2 a rite or ceremony —**ce·re·mo·ni·al·ly** *adv.*

ce·re·mo·ni·ous (-nē əs) *adj.* 1 full of ceremony 2 very polite or formal —**ce·re·mo·ni·ous·ly** *adv.*

ce·re·mo·ny (ser'ə mō'nē) *n., pl. -nies* [< L *caerimonia*] 1 a set of formal acts proper to a special occasion, as a religious rite 2 behavior that follows rigid etiquette 3 *a*) formality *b*) empty or meaningless formality —**stand on ceremony** to insist on formality

ce·rise (sə rēz', -rēs') *n., adj.* [< OFr *cerise*, cherry] cherry red

ce·met (sər'met') *n.* [CER(AMIC) + MET(AL)] a bonded mixture of ceramic material and a metal

cert *abbrev.* 1 certificate 2 certified

cer·tain (surt'n) *adj.* [< L *certus*, determined] 1 fixed; settled 2 inevitable 3 reliable; dependable 4 sure; positive 5 definite, but unnamed [a *certain* person] 6 some [to a *certain* extent] —**for certain** without doubt

cer'tain·ly *adv.* undoubtedly; surely

cer'tain·ty *n.* 1 the state or fact of being certain 2 *pl. -ties* anything certain

cer·tif·i·cate (sər tif'i kit; *for v.*, -kāt') *n.* [see CERTIFY] a document attesting to a fact, qualification, etc. —*vt.* -cat'ed, -cat'ing to issue a certificate to

certificate of deposit a bank certifi-

cate issued for a specified deposit of money that draws interest and requires written notice for withdrawal

certified public accountant a public accountant certified as having passed a state examination

cer·ti·fy (surt'ə fi') *vt.* -fied', -fy'ing [< L *certus*, certain + -FY] 1 to declare (a thing) true, accurate, etc. by formal statement 2 to declare officially insane 3 to guarantee (a check, document, etc.) 4 to issue a certificate or license to —**cer'ti·fi·a·ble** *adj.* —**cer'ti·fi·ca'tion** *n.*

cer·ti·tude (surt'ə tōd') *n.* sureness; inevitability

ce·ru·le·an (sə rōō'lē ən) *adj.* [< L < *caelum*, heaven] sky-blue; azure

Cer·van·tes (sər van'tēz', -vān'-), Miguel de (mē gel' the) 1547-1616; Sp. writer

cer·vix (sər'viks) *n., pl. cer·vi·ces* (sər vī'sēz', sər'və-) or -vix-es [L, neck] a neck-like part, esp. of the uterus —**cer'vi·cal** (-vi kəl) *adj.*

ce·sar·e·an (section) (sə zer'ē ən) [from the ancient story that Julius CAESAR was born this way] surgery to deliver a baby by cutting through the mother's abdominal and uterine walls

ce·si·um (sē'zē əm) *n.* [ult. < L *caesius*, bluish-gray] a metallic chemical element, used in photoelectric cells, radiation therapy, etc.

ces·sa·tion (se sā'shən) *n.* [< L *cessare*, cease] a ceasing or stopping

ces·sion (sesh'ən) *n.* [< L *cedere*, to yield] a ceding (of rights, property, etc.) to another

cess·pool (ses'pōol') *n.* [< ? It *cesso*, privy] a deep hole in the ground to receive drainage or sewage from the sinks, toilets, etc. of a house

ce·ta·cean (sə tā'shən) *n.* [< L *cetus*, whale] any of certain fishlike water mammals, including whales, porpoises, etc. —*adj.* of the cetaceans

Cey·lon (sə län', sā-, sē-) *former name for SRI LANKA* —**Cey·lo·nese** (sel'ə nēz', sā'lə-), *pl. -nese', adj., n.*

Cé·zanne (sā zān'), Paul 1839-1906; Fr. painter

cf [L *confer*] *abbrev.* compare

CFO *abbrev.* chief financial officer

cg or **cgm** *abbrev.* centigram(s)

Ch or **ch** *abbrev.* 1 chapter 2 church

Cha·blis (sha blē') *n.* [occas. c-] a dry white Burgundy wine, orig. from Chablis, France

Chad (chad) country in NC Africa: 495,755 sq. mi.; pop. 6,288,000

chafe (chāf) *vt.* chafed, chaf'ing [< L *calefacere*, make warm] 1 to rub so as to make warm 2 to wear away or make sore by rubbing 3 to annoy; irritate —*vi.* 1 to rub (*on* or *against*) 2 to be annoyed or impatient

chaff (chaf) *n.* [OE *ceaf*] 1 threshed or winnowed husks of grain 2 anything worthless 3 teasing; banter —*vt., vi.* to tease in a good-natured way

chaf·ing dish (chāf'ing) a pan with a heating apparatus beneath it, as to cook food at the table

cha·grin (shə grin') *n.* [Fr] embarrass-

ment and annoyance due to failure, disappointment, etc. —*vt.* -grined', -grin'ing to cause to feel chagrin

chain (chān) *n.* [*< L catena*] 1 a flexible series of joined links 2 [*pl.*] *a*) bonds; shackles *b*) captivity 3 a chainlike measuring instrument, as for surveying 4 a series of things connected causally, logically, physically, etc. 5 a number of stores, etc. owned by one company —*vt.* 1 to fasten with chains 2 to restrain, etc.

chain gang a gang of prisoners chained together, as when working

chain reaction 1 a self-sustaining series of chemical or nuclear reactions in which the reaction products keep the process going 2 a series of events, each of which results in the following one

chain saw a portable power saw with an endless chain that carries the cutting teeth

chair (cher) *n.* [*< L cathedra*: see CATHEDRAL] 1 a piece of furniture with a back, for one person to sit on 2 an important or official position 3 a chairman —*vt.* to preside over as chairman

chair'lift *n.* seats suspended from a power-driven endless cable, used to carry skiers up a slope

chair'man (-mən) *n.*, *pl.* -men (-mən) a person in charge of a meeting, etc.: also **chair'per'son** —**chair'man-ship** *n.* —**chair'wom'an**, *pl.* -wom'en, *fem.n.*



CHAISE LONGUE

chaise (shāz) *n.* [Fr] a lightweight carriage, having two or four wheels

chaise longue (lôn; also lounj) [Fr, lit., long chair] a couchlike chair with a long seat: also **chaise lounge** (lounj)

chal-ced-o-ny (kal sed'n ē) *n.* quartz having a waxy luster and, often, colored bands

cha-let (shal ā', shal'ā) *n.* [Swiss-Fr] 1 a Swiss house with overhanging eaves 2 any similar building

chal-ice (chal'is) *n.* [*< L calix*, cup] 1 a cup; goblet 2 the cup for Communion wine

chalk (chôk) *n.* [*< L calx*, limestone] 1 a soft, whitish limestone 2 a piece of chalk or chalklike substance used for writing on a blackboard —*adj.* made with chalk —*vt.* to mark or rub with chalk —**chalk up** 1 to score, get, or achieve 2 to ascribe —**chalk'i-ness** *n.* —**chalk'y**, -i-er, -i-est, *adj.*

chalk'board *n.* BLACKBOARD

chal-lenge (chal'ənj) *n.* [*< L calumnia*, calumny] 1 a demand for identification 2 a calling into question 3 a call to a duel, contest, etc. 4 anything that calls for special effort —*vt.* -lenged, -leng-

ing to subject to a challenge —*vi.* to make a challenge —**chal'leng-er** *n.*

chal'lenged *adj.* disabled or handicapped

chal-lis (shal'ē) *n.* [*< ?*] a soft, lightweight fabric of wool, etc.

cham-ber (chām'bər) *n.* [*< LL camera*, a chamber, room] 1 a room, esp. a bedroom 2 [*pl.*] a judge's office near the courtroom 3 an assembly hall 4 a legislative or judicial body 5 a council [*chamber of commerce*] 6 an enclosed space; compartment; specif. the part of a gun holding a cartridge —**cham'bered** *adj.*

cham'ber-lain (-lin) *n.* [*< OHG chamar-linc*] 1 an officer in charge of the household of a ruler or lord; steward 2 [Brit.] a treasurer

cham'ber-maid *n.* a woman whose work is taking care of bedrooms, as in a hotel

chamber music music for performance by a small group, as a string quartet

chamber of commerce an association established to further the business interests of its community

cham-bray (sham'brā') *n.* [var. of *cambric*] a smooth fabric of cotton, etc. with white threads woven across a colored warp

cha-me-le-on (kə mē'lē ən, -mēl'yən) *n.* [*< Gr chamai*, on the ground + *leōn*, LION] any of various lizards that can change the color of their skin

cham-ois (sham'ē) *n.*, *pl.* -ois [Fr] 1 a small, goatlike antelope of the mountains of Europe and the Caucasus 2 a soft leather made from the skin of chamois, sheep, deer, etc.: also **cham-my** (sham'ē), *pl.* -mies

cham-o-mile (kam'ə mil', -mēl') *n.* *alt. sp. of CAMOMILE*

champ¹ (champ) *vt.* [prob. echoic] to chew hard and noisily; munch —**champ at the bit** to be impatient when held back

champ² (champ) *n.* [Inf.] CHAMPION (sense 2)

cham-pagne (sham pān') *n.* an effervescent white wine, orig. from Champagne, region in NE France

cham-paign (sham pān') *n.* [*< L campus*, field] flat, open country

cham-pi-on (cham'pē ən) *n.* [*< LL campio*, gladiator] 1 one who fights for another or for a cause; defender 2 a winner of first place in a competition —*adj.* excelling all others —*vt.* to fight for; defend; support —**cham'pi-on-ship** *n.*

chance (chans) *n.* [*< L cadere*, to fall] 1 the happening of events without apparent cause; luck 2 an unpredictable event 3 a risk or gamble 4 a ticket in a lottery 5 an opportunity 6 [*often pl.*] a possibility or probability —*adj.* accidental —*vi.* chanced, **chanc'ing** to have the fortune, good or bad —*vt.* to risk —**by chance** accidentally —**chance on** (or **upon**) to find or meet by chance —(the) chances are the likelihood is —**on the** (off) chance relying on the (remote)

possibility

chan·cel (chan'səl) *n.* [*< L cancelli, lat- tices*] the part of a church around the altar, for the clergy and the choir

chan'cel·ler·y (-sə lər ē) *n., pl. -ies* [*< ML cancellaria*] the rank or position of a chancellor

chan'cel·lor (-sə lər) *n.* [*< LL cancel- larius, secretary*] 1 a high government official, as, in certain countries, a prime minister 2 in some universities, the president or other executive officer

chan·cer·y (chan'sər ē) *n., pl. -ies* [*< ML cancellaria*] 1 a court of equity 2 an office of public archives 3 *R.C.Ch.* the diocesan office performing secretarial services for the bishop

chan·cre (shan'kər) *n.* [*Fr: see CANCER*] a sore or ulcer of syphilis

chanc·y (chan'sē) *adj. -i-er, -i-est* risky; uncertain —**chanc'i-ness** *n.*

chan·de·lier (shan'də lir') *n.* [*Fr < L candela, candle*] a lighting fixture hung from a ceiling, with branches for can- dles, light bulbs, etc.

chan·dler (chand'lər) *n.* [*< L candela, candle*] 1 a maker of candles 2 a retailer of supplies, as for ships

Chang (chān) river in central China, flowing into the East China Sea: former transliteration YANGTZE

change (chānj) *vt. changed, chang'ing* [*< L cambire, to barter*] 1 to put or take (a thing) in place of something else [*to change jobs*] 2 to exchange [*to change seats*] 3 to make different; alter —*vi.* 1 to alter; vary 2 to leave one train, plane, etc. and board another 3 to put on other clothes —*n.* 1 a substi- tution, alteration, or variation 2 vari- ety 3 another set of clothes 4 *a)* money returned as the difference between the price and the greater sum presented *b)* coins or bills that together equal a sin- gle larger coin or bill *c)* small coins —**change off** to take turns —**ring the changes** to ring a set of bells with all possible variations —**change'a-ble** *adj.* —**change'less** *adj.*

change'ling (-lin) *n.* a child secretly put in the place of another, as, in folk tales, by fairies

change of life MENOPAUSE: also [*Inf.*] the change

change'o-ver *n.* a complete change, as in goods produced

chan·nel (chan'əl) *n.* [*see CANAL*] 1 the bed or deeper part of a river, harbor, etc. 2 a body of water joining two larger ones 3 any means of passage 4 [*pl.*] the official course of transmission of communications 5 a groove or fur- row 6 a frequency band assigned to a radio or television station —*vt. -neled or -nelled, -nel-ing or -nel-ling* 1 to make a channel in 2 to send through a channel

Channel Islands group of British islands in the English Channel

chan'nel·ize' (-īz') *vt. -ized', -iz'ing* to provide a channel for

chan·son (shān sōn') *n., pl. -sons' (-sōn')* [*Fr*] a song

chant (chānt) *n.* [*< L cantare, to sing*] 1 a song; esp., a liturgical song with a series of syllables or words sung to each tone 2 a singsong way of speaking —*vi., vt.* to sing or say in a chant —**chant'er** *n.*

chan·teuse (shān tōōz') *n.* [*Fr*] a woman singer, esp. of popular ballads

chan·tey (shan'tē, chan'tē) *n., pl. -teys* a song formerly sung by sailors while working: also **chan'ty**, *pl. -ties*

chan·ti·cleer (chan'ti klir') *n.* [*< OFr chante-cler, lit., sing loud*] a rooster

Cha·nu·kah (khā'nōō kā') *n.* HANUKKAH
cha·os (kā'ās') *n.* [*< Gr, space*] extreme confusion or disorder —**cha·ot·ic** (kā āt' ik) *adj.*

chap¹ (chap) *n.* [*< Brit chapman, ped- dler*] [*Inf.*] a man; fellow

chap² (chap) *vt., vi. chapped or chapt, chap'ping* [*ME chappen, cut*] to crack open; split; roughen, as skin —*n.* a chapped place in the skin

chap³ *abbrev.* 1 chaplain 2 chapter

chap·ar·ral (shap'ə ral', chap'-) *n.* [*Sp < chaparro, evergreen oak*] [*Southwest*] a thicket of shrubs, etc.

cha·peau (sha pō') *n., pl. -peaus' or -peaux' (-pōz')* [*Fr*] a hat

chap·el (chap'əl) *n.* [*< ML cappella, dim. of cappa, cape*] 1 a small church 2 a private place of worship, as in a hospi- tal 3 a religious service

chap·er·on or **chap·er·one** (shap'ər ōn', shap'ər ōn') *n.* [*< OFr, hood*] one who accompanies young, unmarried people to supervise their behavior, as at dances —*vt., vi. -oned', -on'ing* to act as chaperon (to)

chap·lain (chap'lən) *n.* [*see CHAPEL*] 1 a clergyman attached to a chapel 2 a clergyman serving in a religious capac- ity with the armed forces, or in a prison, hospital, etc.

chap·let (chap'lit) *n.* [*< LL cappa, cape*] 1 a garland for the head 2 a string of beads, esp. prayer beads

chaps (chaps, shaps) *pl.n.* [*< MexSp chaparreras*] leather trousers without a seat, worn over ordinary trousers by cowboys to protect their legs

chap·ter (chap'tər) *n.* [*< L caput, head*] 1 a main division, as of a book 2 a local branch of an organization

chapter book a book divided into chap- ters, intended for very young readers

char (chär) *vt., vi. charred, char'ring* [*< CHARCOAL*] 1 to reduce to charcoal by burning 2 to burn slightly; scorch

char·ac·ter (kar'ik tər) *n.* [*< Gr charas- sein, engrave*] 1 any letter, figure, or symbol used in writing and printing 2 a distinctive trait, quality, etc.; charac- teristic 3 kind or sort 4 behavior typi- cal of a person or group 5 moral strength 6 reputation 7 status; posi- tion 8 a person in a play, novel, etc. 9 [*Inf.*] an eccentric person

char'ac·ter·is'tic (-is'tik) *adj.* typical; distinctive —*n.* a distinguishing trait or quality —**char'ac·ter·is'ti·cal·ly** *adv.*

char'ac·ter·ize' (-īz') *vt. -ized', -iz'ing* 1 to describe the particular traits of 2 to be a characteristic of —**char'ac·ter·i-**

za'tion *n.*

cha·rade (shə rād') *n.* [Fr < Prov *char-rar*, to gossip] 1 [*pl.*] a game in which words to be guessed are pantomimed, often syllable by syllable 2 an obvious pretense or fiction

char·broil or **char-broil** (chär'broil') *vt.* to broil over a charcoal fire

char·coal (chär'kōl') *n.* [ME *char cole*] 1 a dark, porous form of carbon made by partially burning wood or other organic matter in an airless kiln or retort: used for fuel, etc. 2 a very dark gray or brown

chard (chärd) *n.* [< L *carduus*, thistle] a kind of beet with edible leaves and stalks

char·don·nay (shär'də nā') *n.* [*also* C-] a dry white wine

charge (chärj) *vt.* **charged**, **charg'ing** [ult. < L *carrus*, wagon] 1 to load or fill (*with* something) 2 to add an electrical charge to (a battery, etc.) 3 to give as a duty, command, etc. to 4 to accuse 5 to make liable for (an error, etc.) 6 to ask as a price 7 to record as a debt 8 to pay for by using a credit card 9 to attack vigorously —*vi.* 1 to ask payment (*for*). 2 to attack vigorously —*n.* 1 a load or burden 2 the necessary quantity, as of fuel, for a container or device 3 the amount of chemical energy stored in a battery 4 a cartridge or shell, or the amount of gunpowder needed to discharge a gun, etc. 5 responsibility or care (*of*) 6 a person or thing entrusted to someone's care 7 instruction; command 8 accusation; indictment 9 cost 10 a debt, debit, or expense 11 an onslaught 12 the signal for an attack 13 [Slang] a thrill —*in charge* (*of*) having the responsibility, control, or supervision (*of*) —**charge'a·ble** *adj.*

charge account an arrangement by which a customer may pay for purchases within a specified future period

charge card a thin, flat, plastic card embossed with the owner's name, account number, etc., used when charging purchases

charg'er *n.* 1 a person or thing that charges 2 a horse ridden in battle 3 a device used to charge storage batteries

char·grill (chär'gril') *vt.* to grill (meat) over a charcoal fire, etc.

char·i·ly (cher'ə lē, char'-) *adv.* cautiously —**char'i·ness** *n.*

char·i·ot (char'ē ət) *n.* [see CAR] a horse-drawn, two-wheeled cart used in ancient times for war, racing, etc. —**chari·ot·eer'** (-ə tir') *n.*

cha·ris·ma (kə riz'mə) *n.* [< Gr, favor, grace] a special quality in one that inspires devotion or fascination

char·is·mat·ic (kar'iz mat'ik) *adj.* 1 of or having charisma 2 designating or of a religious group that stresses direct divine inspiration, manifested as in glossolalia, etc. —*n.* a member of a charismatic group

char·i·ta·ble (char'i tə bəl) *adj.* 1 generous to the needy 2 of or for charity 3 kind and forgiving; lenient —**char'i·ta·**

bly *adv.*

char·i·ty (char'i tē) *n., pl. -ties* [< L *caritas*, affection] 1 *Christian Theol.* love for one's fellow human beings 2 leniency in judging others 3 *a)* generosity toward the needy *b)* help so given 4 a welfare institution, fund, etc.

char·la·tan (shär'lə tən) *n.* [ult. < VL *cerretanus*, seller of papal indulgences] a fraud; quack

Char·le·magne (shär'lə măn') A.D. 742-814; king of the Franks (768-814): emperor of the Holy Roman Empire (800-814)

Charles·ton¹ (chärls'tən) *n.* [< name of the seaport] a lively dance of the 1920s, in 4/4 time

Charles·ton² (chärls'tən) capital of West Virginia, in the W part: pop. 57,000

char·ley horse (chär'lē) [Inf.] a cramp in a muscle, esp. a thigh muscle

Char·lotte (shär'lət) city in S North Carolina: pop. 396,000

Char·lotte·town (shär'lət toun') capital of Prince Edward Island, Canada: pop. 33,000

charm (chärm) *n.* [< L *carmen*] 1 an action, object, or words assumed to have magic power 2 a trinket worn on a bracelet, etc. 3 a quality that attracts or delights 4 *Particle Physics* a property of certain quarks —*vt., vi.* 1 to act on as if by magic 2 to fascinate; delight —**charm'er** *n.* —**charm'ing** *adj.* —**charm'ing·ly** *adv.*

char·meuse (shär mōōz', -mōōs') *n.* [Fr < *charmer*, to bewitch] a smooth fabric of silk or polyester

char·nel (house) (chär'nəl) [< LL *carnale*, graveyard] a building or place where corpses or bones are deposited

Cha·ron (ker'an) *n.* *Gr. Myth.* the ferryman on the river Styx

chart (chärt) *n.* [< Gr *chartēs*, layer of papyrus] 1 a map, esp. for use in navigation 2 an information sheet with tables, graphs, etc. 3 a table, graph, etc. —*vt.* 1 to make a chart of 2 to plan (a course of action)

char·ter (chärt'ər) *n.* [see prec.] 1 a franchise granted by a government 2 a written statement of basic laws or principles; constitution 3 written permission to form a local chapter or lodge of a society 4 the hire or lease of an airplane, bus, etc. —*vt.* 1 to grant a charter to 2 to hire for exclusive use

charter member a founder or original member

charter school a publicly-funded alternative school founded on a charter with the government

char·treuse (shär trōōz', -trōōs') *n.* [Fr] pale, yellowish green

char·wom·an (chär'wōom'an) *n., pl. -wom'en* [see CHORE] a cleaning woman

char·y (cher'ē, char'ē) *adj.* -i·er, -i·est [< OE *cearig*, sorrowful] 1 careful; cautious 2 sparing

chase¹ (chās) *vt.* chased, chas'ing [ult. <

L *capere*, to take] 1 to follow so as to catch 2 to run after; pursue 3 to drive away 4 to hunt —*vi.* 1 to go in pursuit 2 [Inf.] to rush —*n.* 1 a chasing; pursuit 2 the hunting of game —*give chase* to pursue

chase² (chās) *vt.* chased, chas'ing [‹ OFr *enchasser*] to ornament (metal) as by engraving

chas'er *n.* 1 one that chases or hunts; pursuer 2 a mild drink, as water, taken after whiskey, etc.

chasm (kaz'əm) *n.* [‹ Gr *chasma*] 1 a deep crack in the earth's surface; abyss 2 any break or gap

chas·sis (chas'ē, shas'ē) *n., pl. -sis' (-ēz')* [Fr] 1 the frame, wheels, engine, etc. of a motor vehicle, but not the body 2 a) a frame, as for the parts of a TV set b) the assembled frame and parts

chaste (chāst) *adj.* [‹ L *castus*, pure] 1 not indulging in unlawful sexual activity; virtuous 2 decent; modest 3 simple in style; not ornate —*chaste'ly adv.*

chas·ten (chās'an) *vt.* [‹ L *castigare*, punish] 1 to punish so as to correct 2 to restrain or subdue

chas·tise (chas tiz', chas'tiz') *vt. -tised', -tis'ing* [see prec.] 1 to punish, esp. by beating 2 to scold sharply —*chas·tise'ment n.* —*chas·tis'er n.*

chas·ti·ty (chas'tə tē) *n.* a being chaste; specif., a) virtuousness b) sexual abstinence; celibacy c) decency or modesty

chas·u·ble (chaz'ə bəl, chas'-) *n.* [‹ ML *casula*] a sleeveless outer vestment worn by priests at Mass

chat (chat) *vi.* chat'ted, chat'ting [‹ CHATTER] 1 to talk in a light, informal manner 2 to hold an electronic conversation by exchanging typed messages on computers —*n.* light, informal talk

châ·teau (sha tō') *n., pl. -teaux' (-tōz', -tō')* or *-teaus'* [Fr < L *castellum*, castle] 1 a French feudal castle 2 a large country house and estate, esp. in France Also *cha·teau'*

chat·e·laine (shat'l ān') *n.* [Fr] 1 the mistress of a château 2 a woman's ornamental chain or clasp

Chat·ta·noo·ga (chat'ə nōō'gə) city in SE Tennessee: pop. 152,000

chat·tel (chat'l) *n.* [see CATTLE] a movable item of personal property, as furniture

chat·ter (chat'ər) *vi.* [echoic] 1 to make short, rapid, indistinct sounds, as squirrels do 2 to talk much and foolishly 3 to click together rapidly, as teeth do from cold —*n.* 1 a chattering 2 foolish talk —*chat'ter·er n.*

chat'ter·box' *n.* an incessant talker

chat·ty (chat'ē) *adj. -ti·er, -ti·est* fond of chatting —*chat'ti·ness n.*

Chau·cer (chō'sər), Geof·frey (jef'rē) 1340?-1400; Eng. poet

chauf·feur (shō'fər, shō fər') *n.* [Fr, lit., stoker] one hired to drive a private automobile for someone else —*vt.* to act as chauffeur to

chau·vin·ism (shō'vin iz'əm) *n.* [after N. *Chauvin*, fanatical Fr patriot] 1 mili-

tant and boastful patriotism; jingoism 2 unreasoning and boastful devotion to one's race, sex, etc. —*chau'vin·ist n., adj.* —*chau'vin·is'tic adj.* —*chau'vin·is'ti·cal·ly adv.*

cheap (chēp) *adj.* [ult. < L *caupo*, tradesman] 1 low in price 2 worth more than the price 3 easily gotten [a *cheap* victory] 4 of little value 5 contemptible 6 [Inf.] stingy —*adv.* at a low cost —*cheap'ly adv.* —*cheap'ness n.*

cheap'en *vt., vi.* to make or become cheap or cheaper

cheap shot [Slang] an unnecessarily rough or mean action or remark

cheap'skate' *n.* [Slang] a stingy person

cheat (chēt) *n.* [‹ L *ex-*, out + *cadere*, to fall] 1 a fraud; swindle 2 a swindler —*vt.* 1 to defraud; swindle 2 to foil, deprive, or elude [to *cheat* death] —*vi.* 1 to be dishonest or deceitful 2 [Slang] to be sexually unfaithful: often with *on* —*cheat'er n.*

check (chek) *n.* [‹ OFr *eschec*, a check in chess] 1 a sudden stop 2 any restraint 3 one that restrains 4 a supervision or test of accuracy, etc. 5 a mark (✓) to show verification 6 an identification ticket, token, etc. [a hat *check*] 7 one's bill at a restaurant or bar 8 a written order to a bank to pay a sum of money 9 a pattern of squares, or one of the squares 10 *Chess* the state of a king that is in danger 11 *Hockey* a bumping of an opponent —*interj.* [Inf.] agreed! right! —*vt.* 1 to stop suddenly 2 to restrain; curb; block 3 to test, verify, etc. by examination or comparison: often with *out* 4 to mark with a check (✓): often with *off* 5 to mark with a pattern of squares 6 to deposit temporarily, as in a checkroom 7 to clear (esp. luggage) for shipment 8 *Chess* to place (the opponent's king) in check 9 *Hockey* to bump (an opponent) —*vi.* 1 to agree with one another, item for item: often with *out* 2 to investigate or verify: often with *on, up on* —*check in* 1 to register at a hotel, etc. 2 [Inf.] to present oneself, as at work —*check out* 1 to pay and leave a hotel, etc. 2 to add up the prices of (items selected) for payment 3 to prove to be accurate, in good condition, etc. —*in check* under control —*check'er n.*

check'book' *n.* a book of detachable forms for writing bank checks

checked (chekt) *adj.* having a pattern of squares

check'er·board' *n.* a square board with 64 squares of two alternating colors, used in checkers and chess

check·ered (chek'ərd) *adj.* 1 having a pattern of squares 2 varied [a *check·ered* career]

check'ers (-ərz) *n.* 1 a game for two played with flat disks on a checkerboard 2 the disks

checking account a bank account against which the depositor can draw checks

check'list' *n.* a list of things, names, etc. to be referred to: also *check list*

check'mate' *n.* [ult. < Pers *šāh māt*, the king is dead] 1 *Chess* a) the move that

wins the game by checking the opponent's king so that it cannot be protected *b*) the condition of the king after this move 2 total defeat, frustration, etc. —*vt.* -*mat'ed*, -*mat'ing* 1 Chess to place in checkmate 2 to defeat; thwart

check'off' n. the withholding of members' dues for the union by the employer

check'out' n. 1 the act or place of checking out purchases 2 the time by which one must check out of a hotel, etc.

check'point' n. a place on a road, etc. where traffic is inspected

check'room' n. a room in which hats, coats, etc. may be left until called for

check'up' n. an examination, esp. a medical one

ched·dar (cheese) (ched'ər) [after Cheddar, England] [often C-] a hard, smooth cheese

cheek (chēk) n. [OE *ceoke*, jaw] 1 either side of the face below the eye 2 either of two sides of anything 3 [Inf.] sauciness; impudence

cheek'bone' n. the bone across the upper cheek, just below the eye

cheek'y adj. -i-er, -i-est [Inf.] saucy; impudent —*cheek'i-ness n.*

cheep (chēp) n. [echoic] the short, shrill sound made by a young bird —*vt.*, *vi.* to make, or utter with, this sound —*cheep'er n.*

cheer (chir) n. [< Gr *kara*, the head] 1 state of mind or of feeling; spirit [be of good *cheer*] 2 gladness; joy 3 festive entertainment 4 encouragement 5 *a*) a glad, excited shout to urge on, greet, etc. *b*) a rallying cry, etc. —*vt.* 1 to gladden; comfort: often with *up* 2 to urge on, greet, or applaud with cheers —*vi.* 1 to become cheerful: usually with *up* 2 to shout cheers

cheer'ful adj. 1 full of cheer; joyful 2 bright and attractive 3 willing; ready [a *cheerful* helper] —*cheer'ful-ly adv.* —*cheer'ful-ness n.*

cheer'i-o' (-ē ō') interj. [Brit. Inf.] 1 goodbye 2 good health: used as a toast

cheer'lead' (-lēd') vi., *vt.* to act as a cheerleader (for) —*cheer'lead'ing n.*

cheer'lead'er n. a leader of cheers, as at football games

cheer'less adj. not cheerful; dismal; dreary —*cheer'less-ly adv.* —*cheer'less-ness n.*

cheers (chirz) interj. good health: used as a toast

cheer'y adj. -i-er, -i-est cheerful; lively; bright —*cheer'i-ly adv.* —*cheer'i-ness n.*

cheese (chēz) n. [OE *cyse*] a solid food made from milk curds

cheese'burg'er n. a hamburger topped with melted cheese

cheese'cake' n. 1 a cake made with cottage cheese or cream cheese 2 [Inf.] photographic display of the figure, esp. the legs, of a pretty woman

cheese'cloth' n. [from its use for wrapping cheese] a thin cotton cloth with a very loose weave

chees'y adj. -i-er, -i-est 1 like cheese 2

[Slang] inferior; poor

chee·tah (chēt'ə) n. [Hindi < Sans *chitrakā*, spotted] a swift cat of Africa and S Asia, with long legs and a spotted coat

chef (shɛf) n. [Fr, head, chief] 1 a head cook 2 any cook

Che·khov (chek'ôf), An·ton (än tön') 1860-1904; Russ. writer

chem abbrev. 1 chemical(s) 2 chemistry

chem·i·cal (kem'i kəl) adj. 1 of, made by, or used in chemistry 2 made with or operated by chemicals 3 of or involving a drug, alcohol, etc. [*chemical dependency*] —*n.* 1 any substance used in or obtained by a chemical process 2 [Slang] a drug, alcoholic beverage, etc. —*chem'i-cal-ly adv.*

chemical abuse the habitual use of a mood-altering drug, alcohol, etc. —*chemical abuser*

chemical engineering the science or profession of applying chemistry to industrial uses

chemical warfare warfare by means of poisonous gases, etc.

che·mise (shə mēz') n. [< LL *camisia*, tunic] 1 a woman's loose, short slip 2 a straight, loose dress

chem·ist (kem'ist) n. [ult. < Ar < ? Gr *cheein*, to pour] 1 a specialist in chemistry 2 [Brit.] a pharmacist, or druggist

chem·is·try (kem'is trē) n. [< prec.] 1 the science dealing with the composition and properties of substances, and with the reactions by which substances are produced from or converted into other substances 2 [Inf.] rapport

che·mo (kē'mō) n. [Inf.] short for CHEMOTHERAPY

chemo- combining form of, with, or by chemicals: also, before a vowel, *chem-*

che'mo·ther'a·py (kē'mō-) n. the use of drugs to prevent or treat a disease

chem·ur·gy (kem'ər jē) n. chemistry dealing with the use of organic, esp. farm, products in industrial manufacture

che·nille (shə nēl') n. [Fr, lit., caterpillar] 1 a tufted, velvety yarn 2 a fabric filled or woven with this

cheque (chek) n. Brit. sp. of CHECK (*n.* 8)

cher·ish (cher'ish) vt. [< L *carus*, dear] 1 to feel or show love for 2 to protect; foster 3 to cling to the idea or feeling of

Cher·o·kee (cher'ə kē') n., *pl.* -*kees'* or -*kee'* a member of a North American Indian people now chiefly of Oklahoma and North Carolina

che·root (shə rōōt') n. [< Tamil] a cigar with both ends cut square

cher·ry (cher'ē) n., *pl.* -*ries* [< Gr *hērāsion*] 1 a small, fleshy fruit with a smooth, hard pit 2 the tree that bears this fruit 3 the wood of this tree 4 a bright red color —*adj.* bright-red

chert (chart) n. a very dense type of quartz, including jasper and flint

cher·ub (cher'əb) n., *pl.* -*ubs*; for 1 usually -*u·bim'* (-yōō bim', -ə bim') or -*u·bims* [< Heb *kerūbh*] 1 any of a kind of

angel, often represented as a chubby, rosy-faced child with wings 2 a child, etc. having a sweet, innocent face — **che·ru·bic** (chə rōō'bi:k) *adj.* — **che·ru'bi·cal·ly** *adv.*

cher·vil (chər'vəl) *n.* [*< Gr chairephyl·lon*] an herb like parsley, with leaves used to flavor salads, soups, etc.

Ches·a·peake Bay (ches'ə pēk') arm of the Atlantic, extending into Virginia and Maryland

chess (ches) *n.* [*< OFr eschec*, a check in chess] a game played on a chessboard by two players, using a variety of pieces (**chess'men**)

chess'board' *n.* a checkerboard used for chess

chest (chest) *n.* [*< Gr kistē*, a box] 1 a box with a lid 2 a cabinet with drawers, as for clothes 3 a cabinet with shelves, as for medicines 4 the part of the body enclosed by the ribs, breastbone, and diaphragm

ches·ter·field (ches'tər fēld') *n.* [after a 19th-c. Earl of *Chesterfield*] a single-breasted topcoat, usually with a velvet collar

chest·nut (ches'nūt') *n.* [*< Gr kastaneia*] 1 the edible nut of various trees of the beech family 2 such a tree, or its wood 3 reddish brown 4 a reddish-brown horse 5 [Inf.] an old, stale joke, story, etc. — *adj.* reddish-brown

chev·i·ot (shev'ē ət; also chev'ē ət) *n.* [after *Cheviot Hills*, on the Scottish-English border] [sometimes C-] a rough, twilled wool fabric

chèvre or **che·vre** (shev'rə) *n.* a soft cheese made from goat's milk

chev·ron (shev'rən) *n.* [*< OFr, rafter*] a V-shaped bar on the sleeve of a uniform, showing rank

chew (chō) *vt., vi.* [*< OE ceowan*] to bite and crush with the teeth — *n.* 1 a chewing 2 something chewed or for chewing — **chew'er** *n.* — **chew'y**, **-i·er**, **-i·est**, *adj.*

chew'ing gum a gummy substance, as chicle, flavored for chewing

Chey·enne¹ (shī an', -en') *n., pl. -ennes'* or **-enne'** a member of a North American Indian people now chiefly of Oklahoma

Chey·enne² (shī an', -en') capital of Wyoming, in the SE part: pop. 50,000

chg(d) *abbrev.* charge(d)

chi (kī, kē) *n.* the 22d letter of the Greek alphabet (Χ, χ)

Chi·an·ti (kē ān'tē, -an'-) *n.* [It] [also c-] a dry red wine

chi·a·ro·scu·ro (kē ār'ə skoor'ō) *n., pl. -ros* [It *< L clarus*, clear + *obscurus*, dark] 1 light and shade in a painting, etc. treated to suggest depth or for effect 2 a style of painting, etc. emphasizing this 3 a painting in which this is used

chic (shēk) *n.* [Fr *< medieval LowG schick*, skill] smart elegance of style — *adj.* pleasingly stylish

Chi·ca·go (shə kă'gō, -kô'-) city and port in NE Illinois: pop. 2,784,000 (met. area, 6,070,000)

chi·can·er·y (shi kăn'ər ē) *n., pl. -ies* [*< Fr*] 1 trickery 2 a trick

Chi·ca·no (chi kă'nō) *n., pl. -nos* [*< AmSp*] a U.S. citizen or inhabitant of Mexican descent — *adj.* of Chicanos — **Chi·ca'na** (-nə), *pl. -nas, fem.n.*

chi·chi or **chi·chi** (shē'shē) *adj.* [Fr] extremely chic, specif. in a showy way

chick (chik) *n.* [ME *chike*] 1 a young chicken or bird 2 [Slang] a young woman

chick·a·dee (chik'ə dē') *n.* [echoic] any of various titmice

chick·en (chik'ən) *n.* [*< OE cycen*] 1 a common farm bird raised for its edible eggs or flesh; hen or rooster, esp. a young one 2 its flesh 3 [Slang] a cowardly person — *adj.* [Slang] cowardly — *vi.* [Slang] to quit from fear: usually with *out*

chicken feed [Slang] a small sum of money

chick'en·fried' *adj.* coated with seasoned flour or batter and fried

chick'en·heart'ed *adj.* cowardly; timid: also **chick'en·liv'ered**

chick'en·pox' *n.* an acute, contagious viral disease, esp. of children, characterized by skin eruptions

chicken wire light, pliable wire fencing

chick'pea' *n.* 1 a bushy annual plant with short, hairy pods 2 its edible seed

chick'weed' *n.* a low-growing plant often found as a weed in lawns, etc.

chic·le (chik'al) *n.* [AmSp] a gumlike substance from a tropical American tree, used in chewing gum

chic·ly (shek'lē) *adv.* in a chic way — **chic'ness** *n.*

chic·o·ry (chik'ə rē) *n., pl. -ries* [*< Gr kichora*] 1 a plant usually with blue flowers: the leaves are used for salad 2 its root, ground for mixing with coffee or for use as a coffee substitute

chide (chīd) *vt., vi.* **chid'ed** or **chid** (chīd), **chid'ed** or **chid** or **chid·den** (chīd'n), **chid'ing** [OE *cidan*] to reprove mildly — **chid'ing·ly** *adv.*

chief (chēf) *n.* [*< L caput*, head] a leader; head — *adj.* main; principal

chief'ly *adv.* 1 most of all 2 mainly — *adj.* of or like a chief

chief'tain (-tən) *n.* [*< L caput*, head] a chief, esp. of a clan or tribe

chif·fon (shi făn') *n.* [Fr] a sheer, silky fabric — *adj.* 1 of chiffon 2 made fluffy as with beaten egg whites [lemon **chif·fon pie**]

chif·fo·nier or **chif·fon·nier** (shif'ə nir') *n.* [Fr] a narrow, high chest of drawers, often with a mirror

chig·ger (chig'ər) *n.* [of Afr orig.] the tiny, red larva of certain mites, whose bite causes severe itching

chi·gnon (shēn'yăn') *n.* [Fr *< L catena*, chain] a coil of hair worn at the back of the neck

Chi·hua·hua¹ (chi wă'wă) *n.* [after fol.] a Mexican breed of very small dog with large, pointed ears

Chi·hua·hua² (chi wă'wă) state of N Mexico, on the U.S. border: 95,401 sq. mi.; pop. 2,442,000

chil·blain (chil'blān') *n.* [[CHIL(L) + *blain* < OE *blegen*; a sore]] a painful swelling or sore, esp. on the fingers or toes, caused by exposure to cold

child (child) *n., pl.* chil'dren [[OE *cild*]] 1 an infant 2 a boy or girl before puberty 3 a son or daughter; offspring —with *child* pregnant —**child'hood'** *n.* —**child'less** *adj.*

child'birth' *n.* the act of giving birth to a child

child'ish *adj.* of or like a child; specif., immature, silly, etc. —**child'ish-ly** *adv.* —**child'ish-ness** *n.*

child'like' *adj.* of or like a child; specif., innocent, trusting etc.

chil·dren (chil'drən) *n. pl.* of CHILD

child's play any very simple task

Chi·le (chil'ē) country on the SW coast of South America: 284,520 sq. mi.; pop. 13,232,000 —**Chil·e·an** (chi lā'an, chil'ē an) *adj., n.*

chi·le re·lle·no (chē'le re yā'nō) *pl.* **chi·les re·lle·nos** (chē'les re yā'nōs) a hot, green pepper stuffed with cheese, meat, etc. and fried

chil·i (chil'ē) *n., pl.* -ies or -is [[MexSp]] 1 the very hot, dried pod of red pepper, often ground as a seasoning (**chili powder**) 2 any of certain other peppers used in Mexican cooking 3 a highly spiced dish of beef, chilies or chili powder, and often beans and tomatoes: in full **chil'i con car'ne** (-kän kär'nē) Also **chil'e**

chili dog a hot dog served with chili con carne

chili sauce a spiced sauce of chopped tomatoes, sweet peppers, onions, etc.

chill (chil) *n.* [[< OE *ciele*]] 1 coldness or coolness causing shivers 2 a moderate coldness 3 a sudden fear, etc. 4 unfriendliness —**adj.** CHILLY —**vi.** 1 to become cold 2 to shake or shiver 3 [Slang] to relax or calm down: usually with *out* —**vt.** 1 to make cool or cold 2 to cause a chill in 3 to check (enthusiasm, etc.)

chill factor WINDCHILL FACTOR

chill'y *adj.* -i·er, -i·est 1 moderately cold 2 unfriendly —**chill'i-ness** *n.*

chime (chim) *n.* [[< Gr *kymbalon*, cymbal]] 1 [usually *pl.*] *a*) a set of tuned bells or metal tubes *b*) the musical sounds made by these 2 a single bell, as in a clock —**vi.** **chimed**, **chim'ing** 1 to sound as a chime or bells 2 to agree —**vt.** to give (the time) by chiming —**chime in** 1 to join in 2 to agree —**chim'er** *n.*

Chi·me·ra (kī mir'ə, ki-) *n.* [[< Gr *chimaira*, orig., she-goat]] 1 *Gr. Myth.* a monster, with a lion's head, goat's body, and serpent's tail 2 [c-] an impossible fancy

chi·mer'i·cal (-mer'i kəl) *adj.* 1 imaginary; unreal 2 fanciful

chim·ney (chim'nē) *n., pl.* -neys [[ult. < Gr *kaminos*, oven]] 1 the passage or structure through which smoke escapes from a fire, usually extending above the roof 2 a glass tube around the flame of a lamp 3 a narrow column of rock

chim·pan·zee (chim'pan zē', chim pan'

zē) *n.* [[< Bantu]] a medium-sized great ape of Africa: also [Inf.] **chimp** (chimp)

chin (chin) *n.* [[OE *cin*]] the part of the face below the lower lip —**vt.** **chinned**, **chin'ning** to pull (oneself) up, while hanging by the hands from a bar, until the chin is just above the bar

Chin *abbrev.* Chinese

chi·na (chī'nə) *n.* [[orig. made in China]] 1 porcelain or any ceramic ware like porcelain 2 dishes, etc. made of china 3 any earthenware Also **chi'na·ware'**

Chi·na (chī'nə) country in E Asia: 3,696,100 sq. mi.; pop. 1,130,511,000

chin·chil·la (chin chil'ə) *n.* [[prob. dim. of Sp *chinche*, a small bug]] 1 a small rodent of South America 2 its soft, gray fur

chine (chīn) *n.* [[< OFr *eschine*, spine]] a cut of meat from the backbone

Chi·nese (chī nēz', -nēs') *n.* 1 *pl.* -nese' a person born or living in China 2 the standard language of China, any related language of China, or the group consisting of these languages —**adj.** of China or its people, language, etc.

Chinese checkers a game in which marbles are moved as checkers, on a board with holes arranged in the shape of a six-pointed star

Chinese lantern a paper lantern that can be folded up

chink¹ (chɪŋk) *n.* [[OE *chine*]] a crack —**vt.** to close up the chinks in

chink² (chɪŋk) *n.* [[echoic]] a sharp, clinking sound —**vi., vt.** to make or cause to make this sound

chi·no (chē'nō, shē'-) *n., pl.* -nos [[< ?]] 1 a strong, twilled cotton, khaki cloth 2 [*pl.*] pants of chino for casual wear

Chi·nook (shə nook', -nōok'; chə-) *n., pl.* -nooks' or -nook' [[< AmInd name]] a member of a North American Indian people of Washington and Oregon

chintz (chints) *n.* [[< Hindi *chhīnt*]] a cotton cloth printed in colored designs and usually glazed

chintz'y (-ē) *adj.* -i·er, -i·est [[prec. + -Y³]] 1 like chintz 2 [Inf.] cheap, stingy, etc.

chin-up *n.* PULL-UP

chip (chip) **vt.** **chipped**, **chip'ping** [[< OE]] to break or cut off small pieces from —**vi.** 1 to break off in small pieces 2 *Golf* to make a short, lofted shot (**chip shot**) —*n.* 1 a small piece of wood, etc. cut or broken off 2 a place where a small piece has been chipped off 3 a small disk used in gambling games as a counter 4 a thin slice of food [a potato **chip**] 5 INTEGRATED CIRCUIT —**chip in** [Inf.] to contribute (money, etc.) —**chip on one's shoulder** [Inf.] an inclination to fight or quarrel

chip'munk' (-mun'k') *n.* [[< AmInd]] a small, striped North American squirrel

chipped beef dried or smoked beef sliced into shavings

chip·per (chip'ər) *adj.* [[< N Brit Dial.]] [Inf.] sprightly; in good spirits

chiro- [[< Gr *cheir*, hand]] *combining form* hand

chi·rog·ra·phy (kī räg'rə fē) *n.* [[prec. +

-GRAPHY] handwriting

chi-rop-o-dy (kī rāp'ə dē) *n.* [[CHIRO- + -POD + -Y'] PODIATRY —**chi-rop'o-dist** *n.*

chi-ro-prac-tic (kī'rō prak'tik) *n.* [[< CHIRO- + Gr *praktikos*, practical] a method of treating disease by manipulation of the body joints, esp. of the spine —**chi'ro-prac'tor** *n.*

chirp (chərp) *vi.*, *vt.* [[echoic] to make, or utter in, short, shrill tones, as some birds do —*n.* this sound

chir-rup (chir'əp) *vi.* [[< prec.] to chirp repeatedly —*n.* a chirruping sound

chis-el (chiz'əl) *n.* [[< L *caedere*, to cut] a sharp-edged hand tool for cutting or shaping wood, stone, etc. —*vi.*, *vt.* -eled or -elled, -el-ing or -el-ling 1 to cut or shape with a chisel 2 [Inf.] to swindle or get by swindling —**chis'el-er** or **chis'el-ler** *n.*

chit (chit) *n.* [[< Hindi] a voucher of a small sum owed for drink, food, etc.

chit-chat (chit'chat') *n.* [[< CHAT] 1 light, informal talk 2 gossip

chi-tin (kī'tin) *n.* [[< Gr *chitōn*, tunic] the tough, horny outer covering of insects, crustaceans, etc.

chi-ton (kī'tən) *n.* [[Gr *chitōn*, tunic] a small marine mollusk with a dorsal shell of eight plates

chit-ter-lings, chit-lins, or chit-lings (chit'linz) *pl.n.* [[< Gmc base] small intestines of pigs, used for food

chiv-al-rous (shiv'al rəs) *adj.* 1 gallant, courteous, etc. like an ideal knight 2 of chivalry Also **chiv'al-ric'** (-rik', shi val'rik) —**chiv'al-rous-ly** *adv.*

chiv'al-ry (-rē) *n.* [[< OFr *chevalier*, knight < *cheval*, horse] 1 medieval knighthood 2 the qualities of an ideal knight, as courage, honor, etc.

chives (chivz) *pl.n.* [[< L *cepa*, onion] [sometimes with sing. *v.*] an herb with slender, hollow leaves and a mild onion odor, used for flavoring

chla-myd-i-a (klə mid'ē ə) *n.* a widespread venereal disease

chlo-ral (hydrate) (klōr'əl) a colorless, crystalline compound used as a sedative

chlo'ride' (-id') *n.* a compound of chlorine with another element or radical

chlo'ri-nate' (-ə nāt') *vt.* -nat'ed, -nat'ing to combine (a substance) with chlorine; esp., to treat (water or sewage) with chlorine for purification —**chlo'ri-na'tion** *n.*

chlo'rine' (-ēn') *n.* [[< Gr *chlōros*, pale green] a greenish-yellow, poisonous, gaseous chemical element with a disagreeable odor, used in bleaching, water purification, etc.

chloro- [[< Gr *chlōros*, pale green] combining form 1 green 2 having chlorine in the molecule

chlo-ro-form (klōr'ə fōrm') *n.* [[< Fr: see prec. & FORMIC] a colorless, volatile liquid used as a solvent and, formerly, as an anesthetic —*vt.* to anesthetize or kill with chloroform

chlo'ro-phyll' or **chlo'ro-phyll'** (-fil') *n.* [[< Fr, ult. < Gr *chlōros*, green + *phyllon*,

leaf] the green pigment found in plant cells, essential to photosynthesis

chock (chäk) *n.* [[NormFr *choque*, a block] a block or wedge placed under a wheel, etc. to prevent motion —*vt.* to wedge fast as with a chock —*adv.* as close or tight as can be

chock'-full' *adj.* as full as possible

choc-o-late (chōk'lat, chäk'-; chōk'ə lat, chäk'ə-) *n.* [ult. < AmInd (Mexico)] 1 a substance made from roasted and ground cacao seeds 2 a drink or candy made with chocolate 3 reddish brown —*adj.* 1 made of or flavored with chocolate 2 reddish-brown —**choc'o-lat-y** or **choc'o-lat-ey** *adj.*

choice (chois) *n.* [[< OFr < Gothic *kausjan*, to test] 1 a choosing; selection 2 the right or power to choose 3 a person or thing chosen 4 the best part 5 a variety from which to choose 6 an alternative —*adj.* **choic'er**, **choic'est** 1 of special excellence 2 carefully chosen —**of choice** that is preferred

choir (kwir) *n.* [[< L < Gr *choros*] 1 a group of singers, esp. in a church 2 the part of a church they occupy

choke (chōk) *vt.* **choked**, **chok'ing** [[< OE *aceocian*] 1 to prevent from breathing by blocking the windpipe; strangle; suffocate 2 to obstruct by clogging 3 to hinder the growth or action of 4 to cut off some air from the carburetor of (a gasoline engine) so as to make a richer gasoline mixture —*vi.* 1 to be suffocated 2 [Inf.] to be unable to perform because of fear, tension, etc. —*n.* 1 a choking 2 a sound of choking 3 the valve that chokes a carburetor —**choke back** to hold back (feelings, sobs, etc.) —**choke down** to swallow with difficulty —**choke off** to bring to an end

choke collar a training collar for a dog, that tightens when the dog strains at the leash: also **choke chain**

choke'hold' *n.* 1 a locking one's arms around another's neck 2 absolute control

chok'er *n.* a closefitting necklace

chol-er (käl'ər) *n.* [[< L *cholera*: see fol.] [Now Rare] anger or ill humor

chol-er-a (käl'ər ə) *n.* [[< Gr *cholē*, bile] any of several severe intestinal diseases

chol'er-ic *adj.* easily angered

cho-les-ter-ol (kə les'tər ōl', -ōl') *n.* [[< Gr *cholē*, bile + *stereos*, solid] a crystalline alcohol found esp. in animal fats, blood, nerve tissue, and bile

chomp (chämp) *vt.*, *vi.* [[var. of CHAMP¹] 1 to chew hard and noisily 2 to bite down (on) repeatedly —**chomp at the bit** to be impatient when held back

Chong-qing (choon'chin') city in SC China: pop. 2,673,000

choose (chōoz) *vt.*, *vi.* **chose**, **cho'sen**, **choos'ing** [[OE *ceosan*] 1 to take as a choice; select 2 to decide or prefer [to choose to go] —**cannot choose but cannot do otherwise than** —**choos'er** *n.*

choos'y or **choos'ey** *adj.* -i-er, -i-est [Inf.] careful or fussy in choosing

chop (chäp) *vt.* **chopped**, **chop'ping** [[ME *choppen*] 1 to cut by blows with a sharp tool 2 to cut into small bits;

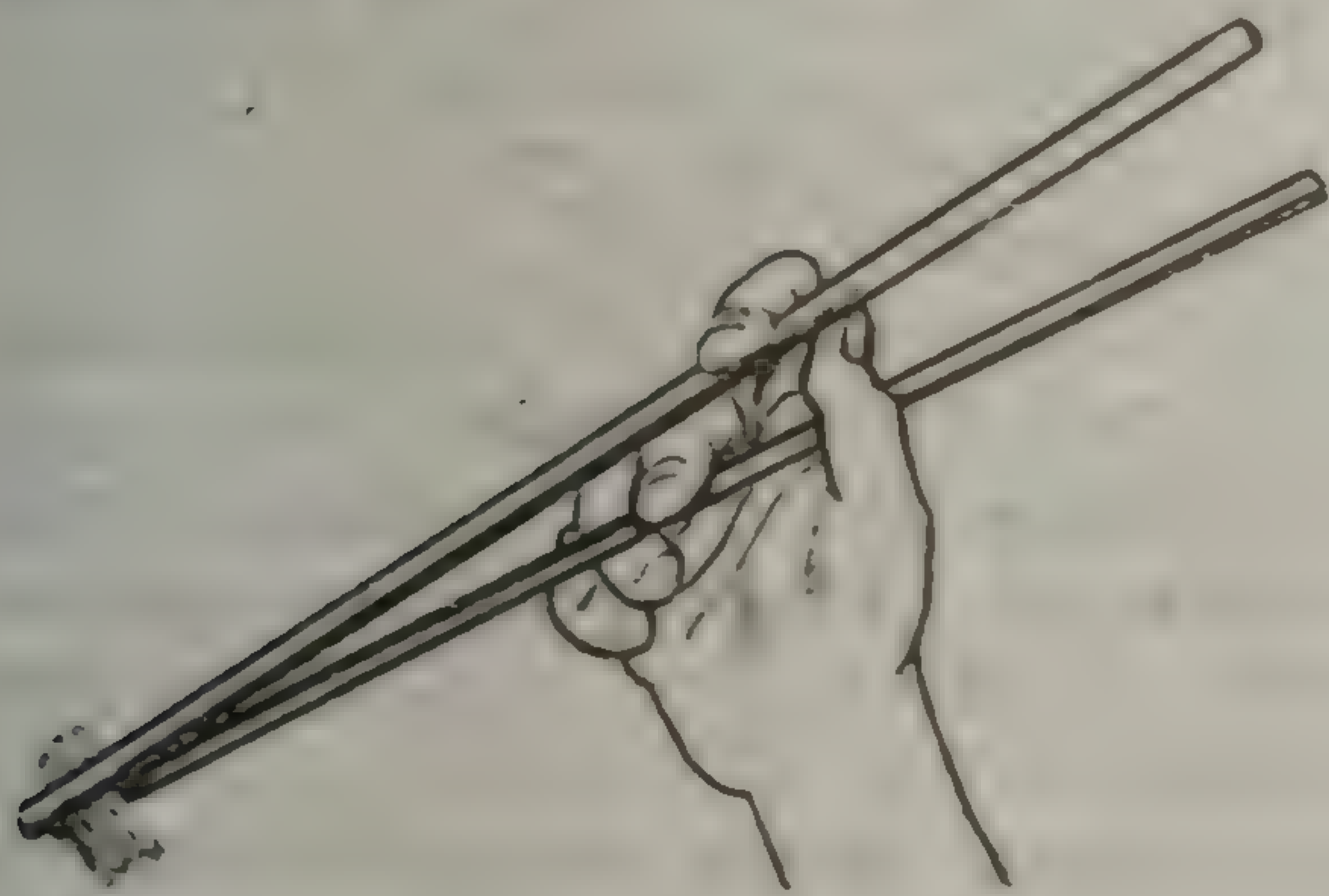
mince —*vi.* to make quick, cutting strokes —*n.* 1 a short, sharp stroke 2 a cut of meat and bone from the rib, loin, or shoulder 3 a short, broken movement of waves

Cho-pin (shō'pan; *Fr* shō pan'), **Fré-dé-ric** (fred'rik; *Fr* frā dā rēk') 1810-49; Pol. composer, in France after 1831

chop-per (chäp'ər) *n.* 1 one that chops 2 [*pl.*] [*Slang*] teeth 3 [*Inf.*] a helicopter

chop'py *adj.* -pi'er, -pi-est 1 rough with short, broken waves, as the sea 2 making abrupt starts and stops —**chop'pi-ness** *n.*

chops (chäps) *pl.n.* 1 the jaws 2 the mouth and lower cheeks



CHOPSTICKS

chop'sticks' *pl.n.* [*Pidgin English*] two small sticks held together in one hand and used, mainly in parts of Asia, as an eating utensil

chop su-ey (chäp' sōō'ē) [*< Chin tsa-sui, various pieces*] a Chinese-American dish of meat, bean sprouts, etc., served with rice

cho·ral (kôr'al) *adj.* of, for, or sung by a choir or chorus —**cho'ral-ly** *adv.*

cho·rale or **cho·ral** (kə ral', -räl') *n.* 1 a hymn tune 2 a choir or chorus

chord¹ (kôrd) *n.* [*altered (infl. by L chorda) < CORD*] 1 [*Archaic*] the string of a musical instrument 2 *Geom.* a straight line joining any two points on an arc

chord² (kôrd) *n.* [*< ME accord, accord*] *Music* a combination of three or more tones sounded together in harmony

chor·date (kôr'dāt') *n.* [*L chorda, CORD + -ATE*¹] any of a phylum of animals having a dorsal nerve cord, including the vertebrates

chore (chôr) *n.* [*< OE cierr, job*] 1 a routine task 2 a hard task

chor·e·o·graph (kôr'ē ə graf') *vt., vi.* [*< fol.*] 1 to design or plan the movements of (a dance) 2 to plan (something) in careful detail —**chor·e·og'ra·pher** (-äg' rə fər) *n.*

chor·e·og·ra·phy (kôr'ē äg'rə fē) *n.* [*Gr choreia, dance + -GRAPHY*] 1 dancing, esp. ballet dancing 2 the devising of dances, esp. ballets —**chor·e·o·graph'ic** (-ə graf'ik) *adj.*

chor·is·ter (kôr'is tər) *n.* [*see CHORUS*] a member of a choir

cho·roid (kôr'oid') *n.* [*Gr < chorion, fetal membrane + -eidēs, -OID*] the dark, middle membrane of the eye

chor·tle (chôrt'l) *vi.* -tled, -tling [*prob. < CHUCKLE + SNORT*] to make a gleeful chuckling or snorting sound —*n.* such a

sound —**chor'tler** *n.*

cho·rus (kôr'əs) *n.* [*< Gr choros*] 1 a group of dancers and singers performing together 2 the part of a drama, song, etc. performed by a chorus 3 a group singing or speaking something together 4 music written for group singing 5 the refrain of a song —*vt., vi.* to sing, speak, or say in unison —**in chorus** in unison

chose (chōz) *vt., vi. pt. & obs. pp. of CHOOSE*

cho·sen (chō'zən) *vt., vi. pp. of CHOOSE* —*adj.* selected

Chou En-lai (jō'en'li') 1898-1976; Chin. premier (1949-76): Pinyin Zhou En-lai

chow (chou) *n.* [*< Chin*] 1 any of a breed of medium-sized dog, originally from China: also **chow chow** 2 [*Slang*] food

chow·der (chou'dər) *n.* [*Fr chaudière, a pot*] a thick soup usually of onions and potatoes and, often, clams and milk

chow'hound' *n.* [*Slang*] a glutton

chow mein (chou' mǎn') [*Chin ch'ao, fry + mien, flour*] a Chinese-American dish of meat, bean sprouts, etc., served with fried noodles

Chrē·tien (krā tyan'), **Jean** (zhăn) 1934-; prime minister of Canada (1993-)

chrism (kriz'əm) *n.* [*< Gr chrisma, oil*] holy oil used as in baptism

Christ (krīst) [*< Gr christos, the anointed*] Jesus of Nazareth, regarded by Christians as the prophesied Messiah

chris·ten (kris'ən) *vt.* 1 to baptize 2 to give a name to, as at baptism 3 [*Inf.*] to use for the first time —**chris'ten-ing** *n.*

Chris'ten·dom (-dəm) *n.* 1 Christians collectively 2 those parts of the world where most of the inhabitants profess Christianity

Chris·tian (kris'chən) *n.* a believer in Jesus as the prophesied Messiah, or in the religion based on the teachings of Jesus —*adj.* 1 of Jesus Christ 2 of or professing the religion based on his teachings 3 having the qualities taught by Jesus Christ, as love, kindness, humility, etc. 4 of Christians or Christianity

Chris·ti·an·i·ty (kris'chē an'ə tē) *n.* 1 Christians collectively 2 the Christian religion 3 the state of being a Christian

Chris·tian·ize (kris'chən īz') *vt.* -ized', -iz'ing to make Christian

Christian name the baptismal name or given name, as distinguished from the surname or family name

Christian Science a religion and system of healing: official name Church of Christ, Scientist

Chris·tie (kris'tē) *n., pl. -ties* [*after Christiania, former name of Oslo, Norway*] *Skiing* a high-speed turn with the skis parallel

Christ·mas (kris'məs) *n.* [*see CHRIST & MASS*] a holiday on Dec. 25 celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ

chro-mat-ic (krō mat'ik) *adj.* [*< Gr chrōma, color*] 1 of or having color or colors 2 *Music* progressing by semitones —**chro-mat'i-cal-ly** *adv.*

chro-ma-tin (krō'mə tin) *n.* [*< Gr chrōma, color*] a substance in cell nuclei containing the genes: it readily absorbs a coloring agent, as for observation under a microscope

chrome (krōm) *n.* [*Fr: see CHROMIUM*] chromium or chromium alloy —*adj.* designating any of various pigments (**chrome red**, **chrome yellow**) made from chromium compounds —*vt.* **chromed**, **chrom'ing** to plate with chromium

-chrome (krōm) [*< Gr chrōma, color*] *combining form* 1 color or coloring agent 2 chromium

chro-mi-um (krō'mē əm) *n.* [*< Gr chrōma, color*] a hard, metallic chemical element resistant to corrosion

chromo- [*< Gr chrōma, color*] *combining form* color or pigment [*chromosome*] Also **chrom-**

chro-mo-some (krō'mə sōm') *n.* [*< prec.*] any of the microscopic rod-shaped bodies carrying the genes

chron-ic (krän'ik) *adj.* [*< Gr chronos, time*] 1 lasting a long time or recurring: said of a disease 2 having had an ailment for a long time 3 habitual —**chron'i-cal-ly** *adv.*

chron-i-cle (krän'i kəl) *n.* [*< Gr chronika, annals*] a historical record of events in the order in which they happened —*vt.* **-cled**, **-cling** to tell the history of; recount; record —**chron'i-cler** *n.*

chrono- [*< Gr chronos, time*] *combining form* time: also **chron-**

chro-nol-o-gy (krə näl'ə jē) *n., pl. -gies* [*prec. + -LOGY*] 1 the science of measuring time and of dating events 2 the arrangement of events in the order of occurrence —**chron-o-log-i-cal** (krän'ə lāj'i kəl) *adj.* —**chron'o-log'i-cal-ly** *adv.*

chro-nom'e-ter (-näm'ət ər) *n.* [*CHRONO- + -METER*] a highly accurate kind of clock or watch

chrys-a-lis (kris'ə lis) *n., pl. chry-sal-i-des* (kri sal'ə dēz') or **chrys'a-lis-es** [*< Gr chrysallis*] 1 the pupa of a butterfly, encased in a cocoon 2 the cocoon

chrys-an-the-mum (kri san'thə məm) *n.* [*< Gr chrysos, gold + anthemon, flower*] 1 a late-blooming plant of the composite family, with showy flowers 2 the flower

chub (chub) *n., pl. chub* or **chubs** a small freshwater fish often used as bait

chub-by (chub'ē) *adj.* **-bi-er**, **-bi-est** round and plump —**chub'bi-ness** *n.*

chuck¹ (chuk) *vt.* [*< ? Fr choquer, strike against*] 1 to tap playfully, esp. under the chin 2 to throw; toss 3 [*Slang*] to get rid of —*n.* a chucking

chuck² (chuk) *n.* [*prob. var. of CHOCK*] 1 a cut of beef from around the neck and shoulder blade 2 a clamplike holding device, as on a lathe

chuck'-full' *adj. var. of CHOCK-FULL*

chuck'hole' *n.* [*see CHOCK & HOLE*] a rough hole in pavement

chuck-le (chuk'al) *vi. -led, -ling* [*? < var. of CLUCK*] to laugh softly in a low tone —*n.* a soft, low-toned laugh

chuck wagon a wagon equipped as a kitchen for feeding cowboys, etc.

chuck-wal-la (chuk'wāl'ə) *n.* [*< AmInd (Mexico)*] a large, edible iguana of Mexico and SW U.S.

chug (chug) *n.* [*echoic*] any of a series of puffing or explosive sounds, as of a locomotive —*vi.* **chugged**, **chug'ging** to make, or move with, such sounds —*vt.* [*Slang*] to drink in gulps

chuk-ka (boot) (chuk'ə) an ankle-high bootlike shoe

chum (chum) [*Inf.*] *n.* [*prob. < chamber (mate)*] a close friend —*vi.* **chummed**, **chum'ming** to be close friends —**chum'my**, **-mi-er**, **-mi-est**, *adj.* —**chum'mi-ness** *n.*

chump (chump) *n.* [*akin to MHG kumpf, dull*] [*Inf.*] a fool or dupe

Chung-king (choon'kin') a former transliteration of CHONGQING

chunk (chunk) *n.* [*< ? CHUCK²*] a short, thick piece

chunk'y *adj.* **-i-er**, **-i-est** 1 short and thick 2 stocky 3 containing chunks —**chunk'i-ness** *n.*

church (church) *n.* [*< Gr kyriakē (oikia), Lord's (house)*] 1 a building for public worship, esp. Christian worship 2 religious service 3 [*usually C-*] a) all Christians b) a particular Christian denomination 4 a religious congregation 5 ecclesiastical, as opposed to secular, government

church'go'er (-gō'ər) *n.* a person who attends church, esp. regularly

Church-ill (chur'chil), Sir **Win-ston** (win'stən) 1874-1965; Brit. prime minister (1940-45; 1951-55)

church'man (-mən) *n., pl. -men* (-mən) 1 a clergyman 2 a church member

Church of England the episcopal church of England; Anglican Church: it is an established church headed by the sovereign

church'war'den (-wōrd'n) *n.* a lay officer handling certain secular matters in a church

church'yard' *n.* the ground adjoining a church, often used as a cemetery

churl (churl) *n.* [*OE ceorl, peasant*] 1 a peasant 2 a surly person; boor —**churl'ish** *adj.* —**churl'ish-ness** *n.*

churn (churn) *n.* [*OE cyrne*] a container in which milk or cream is stirred or shaken to form butter —*vt., vi.* 1 to stir or shake (milk or cream) in a churn 2 to make (butter) thus 3 to stir up or move vigorously —**churn out** to produce in abundance

chute¹ (shōōt) *n.* [*Fr, a fall*] an inclined or vertical trough or passage down which things slide or drop

chute² (shōōt) *n.* [*Inf.*] short for PARACHUTE

chut-ney (chut'nē) *n., pl. -neys* [*Hindi chatnī*] a relish of fruits, spices, herbs, and vinegar

chutz-pah or **chutz-pa** (hoots'pə, khoots'-) *n.* [*Yiddish < Heb*] [*Inf.*] impudence; brass

chyme (kīm) *n.* [**<** Gr *chymos*, juice] the semifluid mass formed as the stomach digests food: it passes into the small intestine

CIA *abbrev.* Central Intelligence Agency

ci-ca-da (si kā'də) *n., pl. -das or -dae* (-dē) [**L**] a large, flylike insect with transparent wings: the male makes a loud, shrill sound

cic-a-trix (sik'ə triks') *n., pl. cic-a-tri-ces* (sik'ə trī'sēz') or **cic'a-trix'es** [**L**] a scar

Cic-e-ro (sis'ə rō') 106-43 B.C.; Rom. statesman & orator

-cide (sīd) [**<** L *caedere*, to kill] *suffix* 1 a killer 2 a killing

ci-der (sī'dər) *n.* [**<** Gr *sikera*, an intoxicant] juice pressed from apples, used as a drink or for making vinegar

ci-gar (si gār') *n.* [**Sp** *cigarro*] a roll of cut tobacco wrapped in a tobacco leaf for smoking

cig-a-rette or **cig-a-ret** (sig'ə ret', sig'ə ret') *n.* [**Fr**] a small roll of finely cut tobacco wrapped in thin paper for smoking

cig-a-ril-lo (sig'ə ril'ō) *n., pl. -los* [**Sp**, dim. of *cigarro*, cigar] a small, thin cigar

ci-lan-tro (si lan'trō, -län'-) *n.* coriander leaves used as an herb

cil-i-a (sil'ē ə) *pl.n., sing. -i-um* (-ē əm) [**<** L] small hairlike projections, as those extending from certain plant cells or from around protozoa

ci-met-i-dine (sə met'ə dēn') *n.* a drug that reduces gastric secretion: used to treat peptic ulcers

cinch (sīnch) *n.* [**<** Sp **<** L *cingulum*, girdle] 1 a saddle or pack girth 2 [**Slang**] a thing easy to do —**vt.** 1 to fasten (a saddle) on (a horse, etc.) with a cinch 2 [**Slang**] to make sure of

cin-cho-na (sin kō'nə) *n.* [after 17th-c. Peruvian Countess del *Chinchón*] 1 a tropical tree with a bitter bark from which quinine is made 2 this bark

Cin-cin-nat-i (sin'sə nat'ē, -ə) city in SW Ohio: pop. 364,000

cinc-ture (sīnk'chər) *n.* [**L** *cinctura*] a belt or girdle

cin-der (sin'dər) *n.* [**OE** *sinder*, slag] 1 a tiny piece of partly burned coal, wood, etc. 2 [*pl.*] ashes from coal or wood

Cin-der-el-la (sin'dər el'ə) *n.* in a fairy tale, a household drudge who eventually marries a prince

cin-e-ma (sin'ə mə) *n.* [**<** Gr *kinēma*, motion] [**Chiefly** Brit.] a film theater — **the cinema** 1 the making of films 2 films collectively —**cin'e-mat'ic** *adj.*

cin-e-ma-tog-ra-phy (sin'ə mə tæg'rə fē) *n.* the art, science, and work of photography in making films —**cin'e-ma-tog'ra-pher** *n.* —**cin'e-mat'o-graph'ic** (-mat'ə graf'ik) *adj.*

cin-na-bar (sin'ə bār') *n.* [**<** Gr *kin-nabari*] mercuric sulfide, a heavy, bright-red mineral

cin-na-mon (sin'ə mən) *n.* [**<** Heb *qin-nāmōn*] 1 the yellowish-brown spice made from the dried inner bark of a laurel tree of the East Indies 2 this bark

ci-pher (sī'fər) *n.* [**<** Ar *ṣifr*] 1 the sym-

bol 0; zero 2 a nonentity 3 secret writing based on a key; code 4 the key to such a code

cir-ca (sər'kə) *prep.* [**L**] about: used before an approximate date or figure: also written *cir'ca*

cir-ca-di-an (sər kā'dē ən) *adj.* [coined **<** L *circa*, about + *dies*, day] of the behavioral or physiological rhythms associated with the 24-hour cycle of the earth's rotation

Cir-ce (sər'sē) *n.* in the *Odyssey*, an enchantress who turns men into swine

cir-cle (sər'kəl) *n.* [**<** Gr *kirkos*] 1 a plane figure bounded by a single curved line every point of which is equally distant from the center 2 this curved line 3 anything like a circle, as a ring 4 a complete or recurring series; cycle 5 a group of people with common interests 6 extent, as of influence; scope —**vt.** -**cled**, -**cling** 1 to form a circle around 2 to move around, as in a circle —**vi.** to go around in a circle —**cir'cler** *n.*

cir'clet (-klit) *n.* 1 a small circle 2 a circular ornament, as for the head

cir-cuit (sər'kit) *n.* [**<** L *circum*, around + *ire*, go] 1 a boundary line or its length 2 a going around something 3 the regular journey through a district of a person at work, as a preacher 4 the district of a U.S. Court of Appeals 5 a chain or association, as of theaters or resorts 6 the path or line of an electric current —**vi.** to go in a circuit —**vt.** to make a circuit about —**cir'cuit-al** *adj.*

circuit breaker a device that automatically interrupts the flow of an electric current

circuit court a court that holds sessions in various places within its district

cir-cu-i-tous (sər kyōō'ət əs) *adj.* roundabout; indirect —**cir-cu'i-tous-ly** *adv.* —**cir-cu'i-tous-ness** *n.*

cir-cuit-ry (sər'kə trē) *n.* the system or the elements of an electric circuit

cir-cu-lar (sər'kyə lər) *adj.* 1 in the shape of a circle; round 2 moving in a circle 3 circuitous —*n.* an advertisement, etc., intended for many readers —**cir-cu-lar'i-ty** (-ler'ə tē) *n.*

cir'cu-lar-ize' (-īz') **vt.** -**ized'**, -**iz'ing** 1 to make circular 2 to send circulars to 3 to canvass —**cir'cu-lar-i-za'tion** *n.* —**cir'cu-lar-iz'er** *n.*

cir-cu-late (sər'kyə lāt') **vi.** -**lat'ed**, -**lat'ing** [**<** L *circulari*, form a circle] 1 to move in a circle or circuit and return, as the blood 2 to go from person to person or from place to place —**vt.** to make circulate —**cir'cu-lat'or** *n.* —**cir'cu-la-to'ry** (-lə tōt'ē) *adj.*

cir-cu-la-tion (sər'kyə lā'shən) *n.* 1 a circulating 2 the movement of blood through the arteries and veins 3 the distribution of newspapers, magazines, etc. 4 the average number of copies of a periodical sold in a given period

circum- [**<** L *circum*] *prefix* around, about, surrounding

cir-cum-cise (sər'kəm siz') **vt.** -**cised'**, -**cis'ing** [**<** L **<** *circum*, around + *caedere*, to cut] to cut off all or part of the fore-

skin of —**circum-cision** (-sizh'an) *n.*
circum-fer-ence (sar kum'fər əns, -frəns) *n.* [**< L** *circum*, around + *ferre*, to carry] 1 the line bounding a circle, ball, etc. 2 the length of this line
circum-flex (sar'kəm fleks') *n.* [**< L** *circum*, around + *flectere*, to bend] a mark (^ or ~) used over a vowel to indicate pronunciation
circum-lo-cu'tion (-lō kyōō'shən) *n.* [**< L**: see **CIRCUM-** & **LOCUTION**] a round-about way of saying something
circum-nav'i-gate' (-nav'ə-) *vt.* -gat'ed, -gat'ing [**< L**: see **CIRCUM-** & **NAVIGATE**] to sail or fly around (the earth, etc.) —**circum-nav'i-ga'tion** *n.*
circum-scribe' (-skrib') *vt.* -scribed', -scrib'ing [**< L**: see **CIRCUM-** & **SCRIBE**] 1 to trace a line around; encircle 2 to limit; confine —**circum-scrip'tion** (-skrip'shən) *n.*
circum-spect' (-spekt') *adj.* [**< L** *circumspicere*, look about] cautious; discreet —**circum-spec'tion** *n.* —**circum-spect'ly** *adv.*
circum-stance' (-stans') *n.* [**< L** *circum*, around + *stare*, to stand] 1 a fact or event, specif. one accompanying another 2 [*pl.*] conditions affecting a person, esp. financial conditions 3 chance; luck 4 ceremony; show —*vt.* -stanced', -stanc'ing to place in certain circumstances —**under no circumstances** never —**circum-stanced'** *adj.*
circum-stan'tial (-stan'shəl) *adj.* 1 having to do with, or depending on, circumstances 2 incidental 3 complete in detail —**circum-stan'tial-ly** *adv.*
circumstantial evidence *Law* indirect evidence of a fact at issue, based on attendant circumstances
circum-vent' (-vent') *vt.* [**< L** *circum*, around + *venire*, come] to get the better of or prevent by craft or ingenuity —**circum-ven'tion** *n.*
circus (sar'kəs) *n.* [**L**, a circle] 1 in ancient Rome, an amphitheater 2 a traveling show of acrobats, trained animals, clowns, etc. 3 [*Inf.*] a place or event regarded as being frenzied, wildly entertaining, etc.
ci-ré (sē rā') *adj.* [**< Fr** *cire*, wax] having a smooth, glossy finish
cir-rho-sis (sə rō'sis) *n.* [**< Gr** *kirrhos*, tawny + *-OSIS*] a degenerative disease, esp. of the liver, marked by excess formation of connective tissue —**cir-rhot'ic** (-rät'ik) *adj.*
cir-rus (sir'əs) *n., pl.* **cir'rus** [**L**, a curl] the type of cloud resembling a wispy filament and found at high altitudes
CIS *abbrev.* Commonwealth of Independent States
cis- [**< L** *cis*, on this side] *prefix* on this side of
cis-tern (sis'tərn) *n.* [**< L** *cista*, chest] a large tank for storing water, esp. rain-water
cit-a-del (sit'ə del') *n.* [**< L** *civitas*, city] a fortress
cite (sit) *vt.* cit'ed, cit'ing [**< L** *citare*, summon] 1 to summon before a court of law 2 to quote 3 to mention by way

of example, proof, etc. 4 to mention in an official report as meritorious —**ci-ta'tion** *n.*

cit-i-fied (sit'i fid') *adj.* having the manners, dress, etc. of city people

cit-i-zen (sit'ə zən) *n.* [**< L** *civis*, townsman] a member of a state or nation who owes allegiance to it by birth or naturalization and is entitled to full civil rights —**cit'i-zen-ship** *n.*

cit'i-zen-ry *n.* citizens as a group

cit-ric (si'trik) *adj.* designating or of an acid obtained from citrus fruits

cit'ron (-trən) *n.* [**< Fr**, lemon] 1 a yellow, thick-skinned, lemonlike fruit 2 its candied rind

cit-ron-el-la (si'trə nel'ə) *n.* [see *prec.*] a sharp-smelling oil used in soap, insect repellents, etc.

cit'rus (-trəs) *n.* [**L**] 1 any of the trees that bear oranges, lemons, limes, etc. 2 any such fruit —*adj.* of these trees: also **cit'rous**

city (sit'ē) *n., pl.* -ies [**< L** *civis*, townsman] 1 a population center larger or more important than a town 2 in the U.S., an incorporated municipality with boundaries and powers defined by state charter 3 the people of a city —*adj.* of, in, or for a city —**cit'y-wide** *adj.*

city hall (a building that houses) a municipal government

civ-et (siv'it) *n.* [**< Ar** *zabād*] 1 the musky secretion of a catlike carnivore (civet cat) of Africa and S Asia: used in some perfumes 2 the animal, or its fur

civ-ic (siv'ik) *adj.* [**< L** *civis*, townsman] of a city, citizens, or citizenship

civ'ic-mind'ed *adj.* having or showing concern for the welfare of one's community

civ'ics (-iks) *n.* the study of civic affairs and the duties and rights of citizenship

civ-il (siv'al) *adj.* [see **CIVIC**] 1 of a citizen or citizens 2 polite 3 of citizens in matters not military or religious 4 having to do with the private rights of individuals —**civ'il-ly** *adv.*

civil disobedience nonviolent opposition to a law through refusal to comply with it, on grounds of conscience

civil engineering engineering dealing with the construction of highways, bridges, harbors, etc. —**civil engineer**

ci-vil-ian (sə vil'yən) *n.* [see **CIVIC**] a person not in military or naval service —*adj.* of or for civilians; nonmilitary

ci-vil'i-ty (-ə tē) *n.* 1 politeness 2 *pl.* -ties a civil, or polite, act

civ-i-li-za-tion (siv'ə lə zā'shən) *n.* 1 a civilizing or being civilized 2 the total culture of a people, period, etc. 3 the peoples considered to have attained a high social development

civ'i-lize' (-līz') *vt.* -lized', -liz'ing [see **CIVIC**] 1 to bring out of a primitive or savage condition to a higher level of social organization and of cultural and technological development 2 to make refined, sophisticated, etc. —**civ'i-lized** *adj.*

civil law the body of law having to do with private rights

civil liberties liberties guaranteed to all

individuals by law, custom, court decisions, etc.; rights, as of speaking or acting as one likes, granted without hindrance except in the interests of the public welfare

civil rights those rights guaranteed to all individuals by the 13th, 14th, 15th, and 19th Amendments to the U.S. Constitution, as the right to vote and the right to equal treatment under the law

civil servant a civil service employee

civil service all those employed in government administration, esp. through competitive public examination

civil war war between different factions of the same nation —the **Civil War** the war between the North (the Union) and the South (the Confederacy) in the U.S. (1861-65)

civ·vies (siv'ēz) *pl.n.* [Inf.] civilian clothes: also **civ'ies**

ck *abbrev.* check

cl *abbrev.* centiliter(s)

Cl *Chem. symbol for chlorine*

clack (klak) *vi., vt.* [prob. echoic < ON] to make or cause to make a sudden, sharp sound —*n.* this sound

clad (klad) *vt. alt. pt. & pp. of CLOTHE* —*adj.* 1 clothed; dressed 2 having a bonded outer layer of another metal or an alloy [*clad steel*]

clad'ding *n.* a layer of some metal or alloy bonded to another metal

claim (klām) *vt.* [< L *clamare*, cry out] 1 to demand as rightfully belonging to one 2 to require; deserve [to *claim* attention] 3 to assert —*n.* 1 a claiming 2 a right to something 3 something claimed 4 an assertion —**claim'a·ble** *adj.* —**claim'ant** or **claim'er** *n.*

clair·voy·ance (kler voi'əns) *n.* [Fr < *clair*, clear + *voyant*, seeing] the supposed ability to perceive things that are not in sight —**clair·voy'ant** *n., adj.*

clam (klam) *n.* [< obs. *clam*, a clamp] any of various hard-shelled, usually edible, bivalve mollusks —*vi.* **clammed**, **clam'ming** to dig for clams —**clam up** [Inf.] to keep silent —**clam'mer** *n.*

clam'bake' *n.* 1 a picnic at which steamed or baked clams are served 2 [Inf.] any large, noisy party

clam·ber (klam'bər) *vi.* [ME *clambren*] to climb clumsily, esp. by using both the hands and the feet

clam·my (klam'ē) *adj.* -mi·er, -mi·est [ME, prob. < OE *clam*, mud] unpleasantly moist, cold, and sticky —**clam'mi·ly** *adv.* —**clam'mi·ness** *n.*

clam·or (klam'ər) *n.* [< L *clamare*, cry out] 1 a loud outcry; uproar 2 a loud demand or complaint, as by the public —*vi.* to make a clamor —**clam'or·ous** *adj.*

clamp (klamp) *n.* [< MDu *klampe*] a device for claspings or fastening things together —*vt.* to fasten or brace, as with a clamp —**clamp down** (on) to become more strict (with)

clan (klan) *n.* [< Gael < L *planta*, offshoot] 1 a group of families claiming descent from a common ancestor 2 a group of people with interests in common —**clans·man** (klanz'mən), *pl.* -men

(-mən), *n.*

clan·des·tine (klan des'tin) *adj.* [< L *clam*, secret] secret or hidden; furtive —**clan·des'tine·ly** *adv.*

clang (klāŋ) *vi., vt.* [echoic] to make or cause to make a loud, ringing sound, as by striking metal —*n.* this sound

clang'or (-ər) *n.* [L < *clangere*, to sound] a continuous clanging sound

clank (klank) *n.* [echoic] a sharp, metallic sound —*vi., vt.* to make or cause to make this sound

clan·nish (klan'ish) *adj.* 1 of a clan 2 tending to associate closely with one's own group only —**clan'nish·ly** *adv.* —**clan'nish·ness** *n.*

clap (klap) *vi.* **clapped**, **clap'ping** [OE *clæppan*, to beat] 1 to make a sudden, explosive sound, as of two flat surfaces struck together 2 to strike the hands together, as in applauding —*vt.* 1 to strike together briskly 2 to strike with an open hand 3 to put, move, etc. swiftly [he was *clapped* into jail] —*n.* 1 the sound or act of clapping 2 a sharp slap

clap·board (klab'ərd) *n.* [transl. of MDu *klapholt* < *klappen*, to fit + *holt*, wood] a thin board with one thicker edge, used as siding —*vt.* to cover with clapboards

clap'per *n.* 1 a person who claps 2 the moving part of a bell, that strikes the side of the bell

clap'trap' *n.* [CLAP + TRAP] insincere, empty talk intended to get applause

claque (klak) *n.* [Fr < *claquer*, to clap] 1 a group of people paid to applaud at a play, etc. 2 a group of fawning admirers

clar·et (klar'it) *n.* [< OFr (*vin*) *claret*, clear (wine)] a dry red wine

clar·i·fy (klar'ə fī') *vt., vi.* -fied', -fy'ing [< L *clarus*, clear + *facere*, to make] to make or become clear —**clar·i·fi·ca'tion** *n.*

clar·i·net (klar'ə net') *n.* [< Fr < L *clarus*, clear] a single-reed woodwind instrument played by means of holes and keys —**clar·i·net'ist** or **clar·i·net'tist** *n.*

clar·i·on (klar'ē ən) *adj.* [< L *clarus*, clear] clear, sharp, and ringing [a *clarion* call]

clar·i·ty (klar'ə tē) *n.* [< L *clarus*, clear] the quality of being clear; clearness

clash (klash) *vi.* [echoic] 1 to collide with a loud, harsh, metallic noise 2 to conflict; disagree —*vt.* to strike with a clashing noise —*n.* 1 the sound of clashing 2 conflict

clasp (klasp) *n.* [ME *claspe*] 1 a fastening, as a hook, to hold things together 2 a holding or grasping; embrace 3 a grip of the hand —*vt.* 1 to fasten with a clasp 2 to hold or embrace tightly 3 to grip with the hand

class (klas) *n.* [< L *classis*] 1 a number of people or things grouped together because of certain likenesses; kind; sort 2 a social or economic rank [the working *class*] 3 a) a group of students taught together b) a meeting of such a

group *c*) a group graduating together
4 grade or quality 5 [Inf.] excellence, as of style or appearance —*vt.* to classify —*class'less adj.*

class action (suit) a legal action that is brought by one or more persons on behalf of themselves and a much larger group

clas-sic (klas'ik) *adj.* [*< L classis, class*] 1 being an excellent model of its kind 2 CLASSICAL (senses 2 & 3) 3 balanced, formal, regular, simple, etc. 4 famous as traditional or typical —*n.* 1 a literary or artistic work of the highest excellence 2 a creator of such a work 3 [*pl.*] the works of outstanding ancient Greek and Roman authors: usually with *the* 4 a famous traditional or typical event

clas-si-cal (klas'i kəl) *adj.* 1 CLASSIC (*adj.* 1 & 3) 2 of the art, literature, etc. of the ancient Greeks and Romans 3 typical of or derived from the artistic standards of the ancient Greeks and Romans 4 well versed in Greek and Roman culture 5 standard and traditional [*classical economics*] 6 designating, of, or like music conforming to certain standards of form, complexity, etc. —*clas'si-cal-ly adv.* —*class'i-cal'i-ty* (-kal'ə tē) *n.*

clas'si-cism' (-ə siz'am) *n.* 1 the aesthetic principles of ancient Greece and Rome 2 adherence to these principles 3 knowledge of classical literature and art —*clas'si-cist n.*

class-i-fied (klas'ə fid') *adj.* 1 confidential and available only to authorized persons 2 of classified advertising —*n.* [*pl.*] a section of classified advertisements

classified advertising advertising arranged according to subject, under such listings as *help wanted* —*classified advertisement*

clas-si-fy (klas'ə fi') *vt.* -fied', -fy'ing 1 to arrange in classes according to a system 2 to designate (government documents) to be secret or restricted to use by authorized persons only —*clas'si-fi'a-ble adj.* —*clas'si-fi-ca'tion n.* —*clas'si-fi'er n.*

class'mate' *n.* a member of the same class at a school or college

class'room' *n.* a room in a school or college in which classes are taught

class'y *adj.* -i-er, -i-est [*Inf.*] first-class, esp. in style; elegant —*class'i-ness n.*

clat-ter (klat'ər) *vi., vt.* [*ME clateren*] to make or cause to make a clatter —*n.* 1 a rapid succession of loud, sharp noises 2 a tumult; hubbub

clause (klôz) *n.* [*< L claudere, to close*] 1 a group of words containing a subject and a finite verb: see DEPENDENT CLAUSE, INDEPENDENT CLAUSE 2 a provision in a document —*claus'al adj.*

claus-tro-pho-bi-a (klôs'trə fō'hē ə) *n.* [*< L claustrum, enclosed place + -PHOBIA*] an abnormal fear of being in an enclosed or confined place —*claus'tro-pho'bic adj.*

clav-i-chord (klav'i kôrd') *n.* [*< L clavis, key + chorda, string*] a stringed musi-

cal instrument with a keyboard, predecessor of the piano

clav-i-cle (klav'i kəl) *n.* [*< L clavis, key*] a bone connecting the breastbone with the shoulder blade

cla-vier (klə vir'; for 1, also klā'vē ə) *n.* [*Fr < L clavis, key*] 1 the keyboard of an organ, piano, etc. 2 any stringed keyboard instrument

claw (klô) *n.* [*OE clawu*] 1 a sharp, hooked nail on an animal's or bird's foot 2 the pincers of a lobster, etc. —*vt., vi.* to scratch, clutch, tear, etc. with or as with claws

clay (klā) *n.* [*OE clæg*] 1 a firm, plastic earth, used in making bricks, etc. 2 *a*) earth *b*) the human body —*clay'ey, clay'i-er, clay'i-est, adj.*

clean (klēn) *adj.* [*OE clæne*] 1 *a*) free from dirt and impurities; unsoiled *b*) free from disease, radioactivity, pollutants, etc. 2 morally pure 3 fair; sportsmanlike 4 neat and tidy 5 well-formed 6 clear 7 thorough —*adv.* [*Inf.*] completely —*vt., vi.* to make or be made clean —*clean up* 1 to make neat 2 [*Inf.*] to finish 3 [*Slang*] to make much profit —*come clean* [*Slang*] to confess —*clean'ly adv.* —*clean'ness n.*

clean'-cut' *adj.* 1 with a sharp edge or outline 2 well-formed 3 trim, neat, etc.

clean'er *n.* a person or thing that cleans; specif., one who dry-cleans clothing

clean-ly (klen'lē) *adj.* -li-er, -li-est 1 keeping oneself or one's surroundings clean 2 always kept clean —*clean'li-ness n.*

clean room a room designed to be nearly 100% free of dust, pollen, etc.

cleanse (klenz) *vt.* cleansed, cleans'ing [*OE clænsian*] to make clean, pure, etc. —*cleans'er n.*

clean'up' *n.* 1 a cleaning up 2 elimination of crime

clear (klir) *adj.* [*< L clarus*] 1 free from clouds; bright 2 transparent 3 easily seen or heard; distinct 4 keen or logical [*a clear mind*] 5 not obscure; obvious 6 certain; positive 7 free from guilt 8 free from deductions; net 9 free from debt 10 free from obstruction; open —*adv.* 1 in a clear way 2 completely —*vt.* 1 to make clear 2 to free from impurities, blemishes, etc. 3 to make lucid; clarify 4 to open [*to clear a path*] 5 to get rid of 6 to prove the innocence of 7 to pass or leap over, by, etc., esp. without touching 8 to be passed or approved by 9 to make as profit 10 *Banking* to pass (a check, etc.) through a clearinghouse —*vi.* 1 to become clear 2 *Banking* to pass through a clearinghouse: said as of a check —*clear away* (or *off*) to remove so as to leave a cleared space —*clear out* [*Inf.*] to depart —*clear up* to make or become clear —*in the clear* 1 free from obstructions 2 [*Inf.*] guiltless —*clear'ly adv.* —*clear'ness n.*

clear'ance (-əns) *n.* the clear space between a moving object and that which it is passing

clear'-cut' *adj.* 1 clearly outlined 2 distinct; definite 3 with all its trees cut

down

clear'ing *n.* an area of land cleared of trees

clear'ing-house' *n.* 1 an office maintained by several banks for exchanging checks, balancing accounts, etc. 2 a central office, as for exchanging information

cleat (klēt) *n.* [ME *clete*] a piece of wood or metal fastened to something to strengthen it or give secure footing

cleav-age (klēv'ij) *n.* 1 a cleaving; dividing 2 a cleft; fissure; division

cleave¹ (klēv) *vt., vi.* cleaved or cleft or clove, cleaved or cleft or clo'ven, cleav'ing [OE *cleofan*] to divide by a blow; split; sever —**cleav'a-ble** *adj.*

cleave² (klēv) *vi.* cleaved, cleav'ing [OE *cleofian*] 1 to adhere; cling (*to*) 2 to be faithful (*to*)

cleav-er (klēv'ər) *n.* a heavy cutting tool with a broad blade, used by butchers

clef (klef) *n.* [Fr < L *clavis*, key] a symbol used at the beginning of a musical staff to indicate the pitch of the notes

cleft¹ (kleft) *n.* [< OE *cleofan*: see CLEAVE¹] an opening or hollow made by or as if by cleaving; crack; crevice

cleft² (kleft) *vt., vi. alt. pt. & pp. of* CLEAVE¹ —*adj.* split; divided

cleft lip a vertical cleft in the upper lip, often accompanying a CLEFT PALATE

cleft palate a cleft from front to back along the middle of the roof of the mouth, due to incomplete prenatal development

clem-a-tis (klem'ə tis) *n.* [< Gr *klēma*, vine] a vine of the buttercup family, with bright-colored flowers

clem-en-cy (klem'ən sē) *n.* mercy; forbearance

Clem-ens (klem'ənz), **Sam-u-el Lang-horne** (sam'yō əl lan'hōrn) (pseud. *Mark Twain*) 1835-1910; U.S. writer & humorist

clem'ent (-ənt) *adj.* [L *clemens*] 1 lenient 2 mild: said as of weather

clench (klench) *vt.* [< OE (*be*)*clencan*, to make cling] 1 to close (the teeth or fist) firmly 2 to grip tightly —*n.* a firm grip

Cle-o-pa-tra (klē'ō pa'trə, klē' ə-) 69?-30 B.C.; queen of Egypt (51-49; 48-30)

clere-sto-ry (klir'stōr'ē) *n., pl. -ries* [< ME *cler*, clear + *storie*, story (of a building)] the upper part of a wall, as of a church, having windows for lighting the central space

cler-gy (klər'jē) *n., pl. -gies* [see CLERK] ministers, priests, rabbis, etc., collectively

cler'gy-man (-mən) *n., pl. -men* (-mən) a member of the clergy; minister, priest, rabbi, etc. —**cler'gy-wom'an**, *pl. -wom'en*, *fem.n.*

cler-ic (kler'ik) *n.* a member of the clergy

cler-i-cal (kler'i kəl) *adj.* 1 of the clergy or one of its members 2 of office clerks or their work

cler'i-cal-ism' (-iz'am) *n.* political power of the clergy —**cler'i-cal-ist** *n.*

clerk (klark) *n.* [< Gr *klērikos*, a cleric] 1 a lay member of a church with minor duties 2 an office worker who types,

files, etc. 3 an official who keeps the records of a court, town, etc. 4 a salesclerk —*vi.* to work as a salesclerk

Cleve-land¹ (klēv'lənd), (**Stephen**) **Gro-ver** (grō'vər) 1837-1908; 22d and 24th president of the U.S. (1885-89; 1893-97)

Cleve-land² (klēv'lənd) city and port in NE Ohio: pop. 506,000

clev-er (klev'ər) *adj.* [? < Norw *klöver*] 1 skillful; adroit 2 intelligent; ingenious; smart —**clev'er-ly** *adv.* —**clev'er-ness** *n.*

clev-is (klev'is) *n.* [see CLEAVE²] a U-shaped piece of iron with holes for a pin, for attaching one thing to another

clew (klō) *n.* [OE *cliwen*] 1 a ball of thread or yarn 2 *archaic sp. of* CLUE

cli-ché (klē shā') *n.* [Fr < pp. of *clicher*, to stereotype] a trite expression or idea

cli-chéd (klē shād') *adj.* trite; stereotyped

click (klik) *n.* [echoic] a slight, sharp sound like that of a door latch snapping into place —*vi., vt.* to make or cause to make a click

cli-ent (klī'ənt) *n.* [< L *cliens*, follower] 1 a person or company for whom a lawyer, accountant, etc. is acting 2 a customer

cli-en-tele (klī'ən tel') *n.* [< Fr < L *clientela*, patronage] all one's clients or customers, collectively

cliff (klif) *n.* [OE *clif*] a high, steep face of rock

cliff'hang'er or **cliff'-hang'er** *n.* a suspenseful film, story, situation, etc.

cli-mac-ter-ic (klī mak'tər ik, klī'mak ter'ik) *n.* [< Gr *klimax*, ladder] a crucial period in life; esp., menopause —*adj.* crucial

cli-mate (klī'mət) *n.* [< Gr *klima*, region] 1 the prevailing weather conditions of a place 2 a region with reference to its prevailing weather —**cli-mat'ic** (-mat'ik) *adj.*

cli-max (klī'maks') *n.* [L < Gr *klimax*, ladder] 1 the final, culminating element in a series; highest point of interest, excitement, etc. 2 the turning point of action in a drama, etc. 3 an orgasm —*vi., vt.* to reach, or bring to, a climax —**cli-mac'tic** (-mak'tik) *adj.*

climb (klīm) *vi., vt.* climbed, climb'ing [OE *climban*] 1 to move up by using the feet and, often, the hands 2 to ascend gradually 3 to move (*down, over, along*, etc.) using the hands and feet 4 to grow upward on (a wall, etc.) —*n.* 1 a climbing 2 a thing or place to be climbed —**climb'a-ble** *adj.* —**climb'er** *n.*

clime (klīm) *n.* [see CLIMATE] [Old Poet.] a region, esp. with regard to climate

clinch (klinch) *vt.* [var. of CLENCH] 1 to fasten (a driven nail, etc.) by bending the projecting end 2 to settle (an argument, bargain, etc.) definitely —*vi.* 1 *Boxing* to grip the opponent with the arms so as to hinder punching effectiveness 2 [Slang] to embrace —*n.* a clinching

clinch'er *n.* 1 one that clinches 2 a decisive point, argument, act, etc.

cling (klin) *vi.* **clung**, **cling'ing** [OE *clingan*] 1 to adhere; hold fast, as by embracing 2 to be or stay near 3 to be emotionally attached —**cling'er** *n.* —**cling'y**, **-i-er**, **-i-est**, *adj.*

clin·ic (klin'ik) *n.* [< Gr *klinē*, bed] 1 the teaching of medicine by treatment of patients in the presence of students 2 a place where medical specialists practice as a group 3 an outpatient department, as in a hospital 4 an intensive session of group instruction, as in a certain skill

clin'i-cal (-i kəl) *adj.* 1 of or connected with a clinic or sickbed 2 having to do with the treatment and observation of patients, as distinguished from theoretical study 3 purely scientific —**clin'i-cal-ly** *adv.*

cli-ni-cian (kli nish'ən) *n.* one who practices clinical medicine, psychology, etc.

clink (klinḱ) *vi.*, *vt.* [echoic] to make or cause to make a slight, sharp sound, as of glasses striking together —*n.* 1 such a sound 2 [Inf.] a jail

clink·er (klin'kər) *n.* [Du *klinker*] 1 a hard mass of fused stony matter, formed as from burned coal 2 [Slang] a mistake

Clin·ton (klint'n), **Bill** (bil) (legal name *William Jefferson Clinton*; born *William Jefferson Blythe IV*) 1946- ; 42d president of the U.S. (1993-2001)

clip¹ (klip) *vt.* **clipped**, **clip'ping** [< ON *klippa*] 1 to cut, as with shears 2 to cut short 3 to cut the hair of 4 [Inf.] to hit sharply 5 [Slang] to swindle —*vi.* to move rapidly —*n.* 1 a clipping 2 an excerpt from a film, videotape, etc. 3 a rapid pace 4 [Inf.] a quick, sharp blow

clip² (klip) *vi.*, *vt.* **clipped**, **clip'ping** [OE *clyppan*, to embrace] to grip tightly; fasten —*n.* any of various devices that clip, fasten, hold, etc.

clip'board *n.* a writing board with a hinged clip at the top to hold papers

clip joint [Slang] a nightclub, store, etc. that charges excessive prices

clipped form a shortened form of a word, as *pike* (for *turnpike*) or *fan* (for *fanatic*) -

clip·per (klip'ər) *n.* 1 [usually *pl.*] a tool for cutting or trimming 2 a sailing ship built for great speed

clip'ping *n.* a piece cut out or off, as an item clipped from a newspaper

clique (klik, klēk) *n.* [Fr < OFr *cliquer*, make a noise] a small, exclusive circle of people; coterie —**cliqu'ish** *adj.* —**cliqu'ish-ly** *adv.*

clit·o·ris (klit'ər is) *n.*, *pl.* **clit'o·ris·es** (-is iz) or **cli·tor·i·des** (kli tōr'i dēz') [< Gr] a small, sensitive, erectile organ of the vulva

clo·a·ca (klō ā'kə) *n.*, *pl.* **-cae** (-sē', -kē') or **-cas** [L < *cluere*, to cleanse] a cavity, as in reptiles and birds, into which both the intestinal and the genitourinary tracts empty

cloak (klōk) *n.* [< ML *clocca*, bell: from its shape] 1 a loose, usually sleeveless outer garment 2 something that covers or conceals; disguise —*vt.* 1 to cover

with a cloak 2 to conceal

clob·ber (kläb'ər) *vt.* [< ?] [Slang] 1 to beat or hit repeatedly 2 to defeat decisively

cloche (klōsh) *n.* [Fr, a bell] a woman's closefitting, bell-shaped hat

clock¹ (kläk) *n.* [ME *clokke*, orig., clock with bells < ML *clocca*, bell] a device for measuring and indicating time, usually by means of pointers moving over a dial: clocks are not meant to be worn or carried about —*vt.* to record the time of (a race, etc.) with a stopwatch

clock² (kläk) *n.* [< ? prec., because of original bell shape] a woven or embroidered ornament on a sock, going up from the ankle

clock radio a radio with a built-in clock that can turn it on or off

clock'wise *adv.*, *adj.* in the direction in which the hands of a clock rotate

clock'work *n.* 1 the mechanism of a clock 2 any similar mechanism, with springs and gears —**like clockwork** very regularly

clod (kläd) *n.* [OE] 1 a lump, esp. of earth or clay 2 a dull, stupid person —**clod'dish** *adj.*

clod'hop'per *n.* [prec. + HOPPER] 1 a plowman 2 a clumsy, stupid person 3 a coarse, heavy shoe

clog (kläg) *n.* [ME *clogge*, lump of wood] 1 anything that hinders or obstructs; hindrance 2 a shoe with a thick, usually wooden, sole —*vt.* **clogged**, **clog'ging** 1 to hinder 2 to obstruct (a passage); jam —*vi.* to become clogged

cloi·son·né (klōi'zə nā') *adj.* [Fr, lit., partitioned] designating enamel work in which the surface decoration is set in hollows formed by thin strips of wire

clois·ter (klois'tər) *n.* [< L *claudere*, to close] 1 a monastery or convent 2 monastic life 3 a covered walk along a courtyard wall in a monastery, etc., with an open colonnade —*vt.* to confine as in a cloister —**clois'tered** *adj.*

clomp (klämp) *vi.* to walk heavily or noisily

clone (klōn) *n.* [< Gr *klōn*, a twig] 1 all the descendants derived asexually from a single organism 2 a genetically identical duplicate of an organism, produced by replacing the nucleus of an unfertilized ovum with the nucleus of a body cell from the organism 3 [Inf.] a person or thing very much like another —*vt.* **cloned**, **clon'ing** to produce a clone of —**clon'al** *adj.*

clop (kläp) *n.* [echoic] a clattering sound, like hoofbeats —*vi.* **clopped**, **clop'ping** to make, or move with, such a sound

close¹ (klōs) *adj.* **clos'er**, **clos'est** [see fol.] 1 confined or confining [*close quarters*] 2 secretive; reserved 3 miserly; stingy 4 warm and stuffy 5 with little space between; near together 6 compact; dense [*close weave*] 7 near to the surface [*a close shave*] 8 intimate; familiar [*a close friend*] 9 strict; careful [*close attention*] 10 nearly alike [*a close resemblance*] 11 nearly equal or even [*a close contest*] —*adv.* in a close manner —**close'ly** *adv.* —

close'ness *n.*

close² (klōz) *vt.* **closed**, **clos'ing** [*< L claudere, to close*] 1 to shut 2 to fill up or stop (an opening) 3 to finish —*vi.* 1 to undergo shutting 2 to come to an end 3 to come close or together —*n.* an end or conclusion —**close down** (or **up**) to shut or stop entirely —**close in** to draw near from all directions —**close out** to dispose of (goods) by sale

close call (klōs) [*Inf.*] a narrow escape from danger: also **close shave**

close-cropped (klōs'kräpt') *adj.* clipped very short [*close-cropped* hair]

closed circuit a system for telecasting by cable, etc. only to receivers connected in the circuit —**closed'-cir'cuit** *adj.*

close·fist·ed (klōs'fis'tid) *adj.* stingy

close'fit'ting (-fit'in) *adj.* fitting tightly

close'-knit' (-nit') *adj.* closely united or joined

close·mouthed (klōz'mouthd', -moutht') *adj.* not talking much; taciturn

close'out' (-out') *n.* a discounted sale of goods no longer carried, or of those of a business being closed down through liquidation

clos·er (klō'zər) *n.* a person adept at completing a deal, an assignment, etc. successfully

clos·et (klāz'it) *n.* [*< L claudere, to close*] 1 a small room or cupboard for clothes, supplies, etc. 2 a small, private room 3 a state of secrecy —*vt.* to shut up in a private room for confidential talk

close-up (klōs'up') *n.* a photograph, etc. taken at very close range

clo·sure (klō'zhər) *n.* [*< L claudere, to close*] 1 a closing or being closed 2 a finish; end 3 anything that closes 4 CLOTURE

clot (klät) *n.* [*OE*] a soft lump or thickened mass [*a blood clot*] —*vt., vi.* **clot'ted**, **clot'ting** to form into a clot or clots; coagulate

cloth (klōth) *n., pl. cloths* (klōthz, klōths) [*OE clath*] 1 a woven, knitted, or pressed fabric of fibrous material, as cotton, wool, silk, or synthetic fibers 2 a tablecloth, washcloth, etc. —*adj.* made of cloth —**the cloth** the clergy collectively

clothe (klōth) *vt.* **clothed** or **clad**, **cloth'ing** [*see prec.*] 1 to provide with or dress in clothes 2 to cover

clothes (klōthz, klōz) *pl.n.* [*OE clathas*] articles, usually of cloth, for covering, protecting, or adorning the body

clothes'pin' *n.* a small clip for fastening clothes on a line, as for drying

cloth·ier (klōth'yər) *n.* a dealer in clothes or cloth

cloth·ing (klō'thin) *n.* 1 clothes; garments 2 a covering

clo·ture (klō'chər) *n.* [*see CLOSURE*] the ending of legislative debate by having the bill put to an immediate vote

cloud (kloud) *n.* [*OE clud, mass of rock*] 1 a visible mass of condensed water droplets or ice crystals in the sky 2 a mass of smoke, dust, etc. 3 a crowd;

swarm [*a cloud of locusts*] 4 anything that darkens, obscures, etc. —*vt.* 1 to darken or obscure as with clouds 2 to make gloomy 3 to sully (a reputation, etc.) —*vi.* to become cloudy, gloomy, etc. —**under a cloud** under suspicion —**cloud'less** *adj.* —**cloud'y**, **-i·er**, **-i·est**, *adj.* —**cloud'i·ness** *n.*

cloud'burst' *n.* a sudden, heavy rain

clout (klout) *n.* [*< OE clut, a patch*] 1 a blow, as with the hand 2 [*Inf.*] power, esp. political power —*vt.* 1 [*Inf.*] to strike, as with the hand 2 to hit (a ball) hard

clove¹ (klōv) *n.* [*< L clavus, nail: from its shape*] 1 the dried flower bud of a tropical evergreen tree, used as a spice 2 the tree

clove² (klōv) *n.* [*OE clufu*] a segment of a bulb, as of garlic

clove³ (klōv) *vt., vi. alt. pt. of CLEAVE¹*

clo·ven (klō'vən) *vt., vi. alt. pp. of CLEAVE¹ —*adj.* divided; split [*a cloven foot*]*

clo·ver (klō'vər) *n.* [*OE clafre*] any of various low-growing plants of the pea family, with leaves of three leaflets and small flowers in dense heads

clo'ver·leaf' *n., pl. -leafs'* a highway interchange with an overpass and curving ramps, allowing traffic to move unhindered in any of four directions

clown (kloun) *n.* [*< ? Scand*] 1 a clumsy or boorish person 2 one who entertains, as in a circus, by antics, jokes, etc. 3 a buffoon —*vi.* to act as a clown does —**clown'ish** *adj.*

cloy (klōi) *vt.* [*< OFr encloyer, nail up < L clavus, nail*] to surfeit with too much of something that is sweet, rich, etc.

cloy'ing *adj.* 1 displeasing because of excess [*cloying sweetness*] 2 overly sweet or sentimental

club (klub) *n.* [*< ON klubba, cudgel*] 1 a heavy stick used as a weapon 2 an implement used to hit the ball in golf 3 *a)* a group of people united for a common purpose *b)* its meeting place 4 *a)* any of a suit of playing cards marked with black figures shaped like leaves of clover (♣) *b)* [*pl.*] this suit —*vt.* **clubbed**, **club'bing** to strike as with a club —*vi.* to unite for a common purpose

club'foot' *n., pl. -feet'* a congenitally misshapen, often clublike, foot

club'house' *n.* 1 a building used by a club 2 a locker room used by an athletic team

club soda SODA WATER

cluck (kluk) *vi.* [*echoic*] to make a low, sharp, clicking sound, as of a hen calling her chicks —*n.* this sound

clue (klō) *n.* a fact, object, etc. that helps to solve a problem or mystery —*vt.* **clued**, **clu'ing** [*Inf.*] to provide with clues or needed facts: often with *in*

clue'less *adj.* [*Inf.*] 1 stupid 2 uninformed, esp. about a given situation

clump (klump) *n.* [*< LowG klump*] 1 a lump; mass 2 a cluster, as of trees 3 the sound of heavy footsteps —*vi.* 1 to walk heavily 2 to form clumps —

clump'y, -i-er, -i-est, *adj.*

clum-sy (klum'zē) *adj.* -si-er, -si-est [ME *clumsid*, numb with cold] 1 lacking grace or skill; awkward 2 awkwardly shaped or made —**clum'si-ly** *adv.* —**clum'si-ness** *n.*

clung (klun) *vi. pt. & pp. of CLING*

clunk (klunk) *n.* [echoic] a dull, heavy, hollow sound —*vi.* to move with a clunk or clunks

clunk'er *n.* [Slang] an old machine or automobile in poor repair

clus-ter (klus'tər) *n.* [OE *clyster*] a number of persons or things grouped together —*vi., vt.* to gather or grow in a cluster

cluster bomb a bomb that explodes in midair and scatters smaller bombs widely

clutch¹ (kluch) *vt.* [OE *clyccan*, to clench] to grasp or hold eagerly or tightly —*vi.* to snatch or seize (*at*) —*n.* 1 [usually *pl.*] power; control 2 a grasp; grip 3 a device for engaging and disengaging a motor or engine 4 a woman's small purse

clutch² (kluch) *n.* [< ON *klekja*, to hatch] 1 a nest of eggs 2 a brood of chicks 3 a cluster

clut-ter (klut'ər) *n.* [< CLOT] a number of things scattered in disorder; jumble —*vt.* to put into disorder; jumble: often with *up*

cm *abbrev.* centimeter(s)

Cmdr *abbrev.* Commander

cni-dar-i-an (ni der'ē ən) *n.* any of a phylum of invertebrates, as jellyfishes, having stinging cells and a saclike body with only one opening

Co¹ or **co** *abbrev.* 1 company 2 county

Co² *Chem. symbol for cobalt*

CO *abbrev.* 1 Colorado 2 Commanding Officer

co- [var. of COM-] *prefix* 1 together 2 equally [*coextensive*] 3 joint or jointly [*copilot*]

C/O or **c/o** *abbrev.* care of

coach (kōch) *n.* [after Kócs, village in Hungary] 1 a large, covered, four-wheeled carriage 2 a railroad passenger car 3 the lowest-priced class of airline accommodations 4 a bus 5 an instructor or trainer; as of athletes, actors, or singers —*vt., vi.* to instruct and train (athletes, actors, etc.)

coach'man (-mən) *n., pl. -men* (-mən) the driver of a coach, or carriage

co-ad-ju-tor (kō aj'ə tər) *n.* [< L *co-*, together + *adjuvare*, to help] an assistant, esp. to a bishop

co-ag-u-late (kō ag'yūō lāt') *vt.* -lat'ed, -lat'ing [< L *co-*, together + *agere*, to drive] to cause (a liquid) to become somewhat firm; clot —*vi.* to become coagulated —**co-ag'u-lant** (-lənt) *n.* —**co-ag'u-la'tion** *n.*

coal (kōl) *n.* [OE *col*] 1 a black, combustible mineral solid used as fuel 2 a piece (or pieces) of this 3 an ember —*vt., vi.* to supply or be supplied with coal —**haul** (or **rake, drag, or call**) **over the coals** to criticize sharply

co-a-lesce (kō'ə les') *vi.* -lesced', -lesc'ing [< L *co-*, together + *alescere*, grow up] to unite into a single body or group —**co'a-les'cence** (-əns) *n.*

co'a-li'tion (-lish'ən) *n.* [see *prec.*] a combination or alliance, as of factions, esp. a temporary one

coal oil 1 kerosene 2 oil produced from coal, used as a lamp fuel

coal tar a thick, black liquid obtained from the distillation of bituminous coal: used in dyes, medicines, etc.

co-an-chor (kō'an'kər) *n.* one of the usually two anchors of a TV or radio newscast

coarse (kōrs) *adj.* coars'er, coars'est [< COURSE in the sense "ordinary or usual order"] 1 of poor quality; common 2 consisting of rather large particles [*coarse sand*] 3 rough; harsh 4 unrefined; vulgar; crude —**coarse'ly** *adv.* —**coarse'ness** *n.*

coars-en (kōr'sən) *vt., vi.* to make or become coarse

coast (kōst) *n.* [< L *costa*, rib, side] 1 land alongside the sea; seashore 2 a slide down an incline, as on a sled —*vi.* 1 to sail near or along a coast 2 to go down an incline, as on a sled 3 to continue in motion on momentum —**coast-al** (kōs'təl) *adj.*

coast'er *n.* 1 a person or thing that coasts 2 a small mat, disk, etc. placed under a glass to protect a table

coaster brake a brake on a bicycle operated by reverse pressure on the pedals

coast guard 1 a governmental force employed to defend a nation's coasts, aid vessels in distress, etc. 2 [C- G-] such a branch of the U.S. armed forces

coast'line *n.* the outline of a coast

coat (kōt) *n.* [OFr *cote*, a coat] 1 a sleeved outer garment opening down the front 2 the natural covering of an animal or plant 3 a layer of some substance, as paint, over a surface —*vt.* to cover with a coat or layer

coat'ing *n.* a surface coat or layer

coat of arms *pl. coats of arms* a group of heraldic emblems, as on a shield, used as the insignia of a family or group

coat'tail *n.* either half of the divided lower back part of a coat

co-au-thor (kō'ō'thər) *n.* a joint author; collaborator

coax (kōks) *vt., vi.* [< obs. slang *cokes*, a fool] to urge with or use soft words, flattery, etc. —**coax'er** *n.* —**coax'ing-ly** *adv.*

co-ax-i-al (kō ak'sē əl) *adj.* 1 having a common axis 2 designating a double-conductor high-frequency transmission line, as for television

cob (kāb) *n.* [prob. < LowG] 1 a corncob 2 a short-legged, thickset horse

co-balt (kō'bōlt') *n.* [< Ger *kobold*, lit., goblin] a hard, steel-gray, metallic chemical element

cob-ble (kāb'əl) *vt.* -bled, -bling [ME < *cobelere*, cobbler] 1 to mend (shoes, etc.) 2 to put together clumsily: often with *up*

cob·bler¹ (kăb'lər) *n.* [\langle ?] a kind of deep-dish fruit pie

cob·bler² (kăb'lər) *n.* [ME *cobelere* \langle ?] one who makes or mends shoes

cob'ble·stone *n.* a rounded stone formerly much used for paving streets

CO·BOL (kō'bôl') *n.* [co(mmon) b(usiness) o(riented) l(anguage)] a computer language using English words, for business applications

co·bra (kō'brə) *n.* [\langle Port] a very poisonous snake of Asia and Africa

cob·web (kăb'web') *n.* [ME *coppe*, spider + WEB] 1 a web spun by a spider 2 anything flimsy, gauzy, or ensnaring like this —**cob'web'by** *adj.*

co·caine (kō kân') *n.* [\langle coca, tropical shrub from whose leaves it is extracted] a crystalline alkaloid that is habit-forming when used as a stimulant

coc·cus (kăk'əs) *n., pl. coc'ci* (-sī') [\langle Gr *kokkos*, kernel] a spherical bacterium

coc·cyx (kăk'siks') *n., pl. coc·cy·ges* (kăk sī'jēz') [\langle Gr *kokkyx*, cuckoo: it is shaped like a cuckoo's beak] a small bone at the base of the spine

co·chair (kō cher', kō'cher') *n.* one who presides over a meeting, etc. jointly with another —**vt.** to preside over as co-chair

coch·le·a (kăk'lē ə) *n., pl. -ae'* (-ē') or **-as** [\langle Gr *kochlias*, snail] the spiral-shaped part of the inner ear —**coch'le·ar** *adj.*

cock¹ (kăk) *n.* [OE *coc*] 1 a rooster or other male bird 2 a faucet or valve 3 *a)* the hammer of a gun *b)* its firing position 4 a jaunty tilt, as of a hat —**vt.** 1 to tilt jauntily. 2 to raise erectly 3 to turn toward 4 to set (a gun) to fire

cock² (kăk) *n.* [ME *cokke*] a small, cone-shaped pile, as of hay

cock·ade (kăk ād') *n.* [\langle OFr *coq*, COCK¹ (*n.* 1)] a rosette, knot of ribbon, etc. worn on the hat as a badge

cock·a·ma·mie (kăk'ə māmē) *adj.* [\langle *decalcomania*: see DECAL] [Slang] 1 inferior 2 ridiculous

cock'-and-bull' *story* an absurd, improbable story

cock·a·too (kăk'ə tōō') *n., pl. -toos'* [\langle Malay *kakatus*] a crested parrot of Australia and the East Indies

cock'a·trice' (-tris') *n.* [\langle L *calcare*, to tread] a mythical serpent supposedly able to kill by a look

cocked hat a three-cornered hat with a turned-up brim

cock·er (kăk'ər) *n.* [Slang] an old man

cock'er·el (-əl) *n.* a young rooster, less than a year old

cocker spaniel [\langle use in hunting woodcock] a small spaniel with long, silky hair and drooping ears

cock'eyed' *adj.* [\langle COCK¹, *v.* + EYE] 1 cross-eyed 2 [Slang] *a)* awry *b)* silly; foolish *c)* drunk

cock'fight' *n.* a fight between gamecocks, usually wearing metal spurs —**cock'fighting** *n.*

cock·le (kăk'al) *n.* [\langle Gr *konchē*, mussel] an edible mollusk having two heart-shaped shells —**warm the cockles of someone's heart** to make someone

pleased or cheerful

cock·ney (kăk'nē) *n., pl. -neys* [ME *cokenei*, spoiled child, milksop] [often C-] 1 one born in the East End of London, England, speaking a characteristic dialect 2 this dialect

cock'pit *n.* 1 an enclosed area for cockfights 2 the space in a small airplane for the crew and passengers, or in a large one for the crew

cock'roach *n.* [Sp *cucaracha*] an insect with long feelers and a flat, soft body: a household pest

cocks·comb (kăks'kôm') *n.* the red, fleshy growth on a rooster's head

cock'sure' *adj.* [COCK¹ + SURE] absolutely sure or self-confident, esp. stubbornly or overbearingly

cock'tail *n.* [\langle ?] 1 a mixed alcoholic drink, usually iced 2 an appetizer, as of shrimp or juice

cock'y *adj. -i·er, -i·est* [\langle COCK¹ + -Y²] [Inf.] jauntily conceited; aggressively self-confident —**cock'i·ly** *adv.* —**cock'i·ness** *n.*

co·co (kō'kō') *n., pl. -cos'* [Sp \langle Gr *kokkos*, berry] 1 the coconut palm tree 2 its fruit; coconut

co·coa (kō'kō') *n.* [var. of CACAO] 1 powder made from roasted cacao seeds 2 a drink made of this and sugar, hot milk, etc. 3 a reddish-yellow brown

cocoa butter a yellowish-white fat prepared from cacao seeds

co·co·nut or **co·coa·nut** (kō'kə nut') *n.* the oval fruit of a tropical tree (coconut palm), with a hard, brown husk, edible white meat, and a sweet, milky fluid (coconut milk) inside

co·coon (kə kōōn') *n.* [\langle Fr \langle ML *coco*, shell] the silky or fibrous case which the larva of certain insects spins about itself for shelter during the pupa stage

cod (käd) *n., pl. cod* or **cods** [ME] a food fish of northern seas

Cod (käd), Cape hook-shaped peninsula in E Massachusetts: 64 mi. long

COD or **cod** *abbrev.* cash, or collect, on delivery

co·da (kō'də) *n.* [It \langle L *cauda*, tail] an added concluding passage, as in music

cod·dle (käd'l) *vt. -dled, -dling* [\langle ?] 1 to cook (esp. eggs in shells) in water not quite boiling 2 to pamper

code (kōd) *n.* [\langle L *codex*, wooden tablet] 1 a systematized body of laws 2 a set of principles, as of ethics 3 a set of signals for sending messages 4 a system of symbols for secret writing, etc. —**vt.** **cod'ed, cod'ing** to put into code —**cod'er** *n.*

co·deine (kō'dēn') *n.* [\langle Gr *kōdeia*, poppy head] an alkaloid derived from opium: used for pain relief and in cough medicines: also **co'dein'**

co·de·pend·ent or **co·de·pend·ent** (kō'dē pen'dənt) *adj.* psychologically influenced by or needing another who is addicted to alcohol, etc. —*n.* one who is codependent —**co'de·pend'ence** or **co'de·pend'ence** *n.* —**co'de·pend'en·cy** or **co'de·pend'en·cy**, *pl. -cies, n.*

co·dex (kō'deks') *n.*, *pl.* **co·di·ces** (kō'də sēz', kād'ə-) [*L.*: see **CODE**] a manuscript volume, esp. of the Scriptures or of a classic text

cod'fish' *n.*, *pl.* **-fish'** or (for different species) **-fish'es** a cod

codg·er (kāj'ər) *n.* [*prob. var. of CADGER*] [*Inf.*] an elderly fellow, sometimes one who is eccentric

cod·i·cil (kād'i səl) *n.* [*see CODE*] an addition to a will

cod·i·fy (kād'ə fī') *vt.* **-fied'**, **-fy'ing** to arrange (laws, rules, etc.) systematically —**cod'i-fi-ca'tion** *n.* —**cod'i-fi'er** *n.*

cod'-liv'er oil oil from the liver of the cod: it is rich in vitamins A & D

co·ed or **co·ed** (kō'ed') [*Inf.*] *n.* a young woman attending a coeducational college —*adj.* 1 coeducational 2 of a coed

co·ed·u·ca·tion (kō'ej'ə kă'shən) *n.* an educational system in which students of both sexes attend classes together —**co'ed·u·ca'tion·al** *adj.*

co·ef·fi·cient (kō'ə fish'ənt) *n.* [*CO-* + *EFFICIENT*] 1 a factor that contributes to a result 2 a multiplier of a variable or unknown quantity (*Ex.*: 6 in *6ab*) 3 a number used as a multiplier in measuring some property

coe·len·ter·ate (si len'tər it) *n.* [*< Gr koilos, hollow + enteron, intestine*] **CNI-DARIAN**

co·e·qual (kō ē'kwəl) *adj.*, *n.* equal —**co'e·qual'i·ty** (-ē kwəl'ə tē) *n.* —**co·e'qual·ly** *adv.*

co·erce (kō ʊrs') *vt.* **-erced'**, **-erc'ing** [*< L co-, together + arcere, confine*] 1 to restrain by force 2 to compel 3 to enforce —**co·er'cion** (-ʊr'shən) *n.* —**co·er'cive** (-siv) *adj.*

co·e·val (kō ē'vəl) *adj.*, *n.* [*< L co-, together + aevum, age*] contemporary

co'ex·ist' (-ig zist') *vi.* 1 to exist together at the same time or in the same place 2 to live together peacefully, despite differences —**co'ex·ist'ence** *n.* —**co'ex·ist'ent** *adj.*

co'ex·ten'sive (-ik sten'siv) *adj.* extending equally in time or space

C of E *abbrev.* Church of England

cof·fee (kôf'ē) *n.* [*< Ar qahwa*] 1 a drink made from the roasted, ground, beanlike seeds of a tall tropical shrub of the madder family 2 the seeds, whole or ground, or the shrub 3 light brown

coffee break a brief respite from work when coffee, etc. is taken

cof'fee·cake' *n.* a kind of cake or roll to be eaten as with coffee

cof'fee·house' *n.* a place where coffee is served and people gather for talk, entertainment, etc.

cof'fee·pot' *n.* a container with a spout, for making or serving coffee

coffee shop a small, informal restaurant serving coffee and light refreshments or meals

coffee table a low table, usually in front of a sofa

cof·fer (kôf'ər) *n.* [*see fol.*] 1 a chest for holding money or valuables 2 [*pl.*] a treasury; funds

cof·fin (kôf'in) *n.* [*< Gr kophinos, basket*] the case or box in which a dead body is buried

cog (käg) *n.* [*ME*] 1 one of the teeth on the rim of a cogwheel 2 a cogwheel

co·gent (kō'jənt) *adj.* [*< L co-, together + agere, to drive*] convincingly to the point —**co'gen·cy** *n.*

cog·i·tate (kāj'ə tāt') *vi.*, *vt.* **-tat'ed**, **-tat'ing** [*< L*] to think deeply (about); ponder —**cog'i·ta'tion** *n.* —**cog'i·ta'tive** *adj.* —**cog'i·ta'tor** *n.*

co·gnac (kôn'yak', kôn'-) *n.* [*Fr*] 1 a brandy from Cognac, France 2 loosely, any brandy

cog·nate (käg'nāt') *adj.* [*< L co-, together + gnasci, to be born*] 1 related by family 2 from a common original form, as two words 3 related or similar —*n.* a cognate person or thing

cog·ni·tion (käg nish'ən) *n.* [*< L co-, together + gnoscere, know*] 1 the process of knowing, perceiving, etc. 2 an idea, perception, etc. —**cog'ni·tive** (-nə tiv) *adj.*

cognitive science the study of cognition

cog·ni·za·ble (käg'ni zə bəl) *adj.* 1 that can be known or perceived 2 *Law* within the jurisdiction of a court

cog'ni·zance (-zəns) *n.* 1 perception or knowledge 2 notice; heed —**cog'ni·zant** *adj.*

cog·no·men (käg nō'mən) *n.* [*< L co-, with + nomen, name*] 1 surname 2 any name; esp., a nickname

cog'wheel' *n.* a wheel rimmed with teeth that mesh with those of another wheel, etc., to transmit or receive motion

co·hab·it (kō hab'it) *vi.* [*< L co-, together + habitare, dwell*] to live together, esp. as if legally married —**co·hab'i·ta'tion** *n.*

co·heir (kō'er', kō er') *n.* one who inherits jointly with another or others

co·here (kō hir') *vi.* **-hered'**, **-her'ing** [*< L co-, together + haerere, to stick*] 1 to stick together 2 to be connected naturally or logically

co·her'ent (-hir'ənt, -her'-) *adj.* 1 sticking together; cohering 2 logically connected and intelligible 3 capable of logical, intelligible speech, thought, etc. —**co·her'ence** *n.* —**co·her'ent·ly** *adv.*

co·he'sion (-hē'zhən) *n.* a cohering; tendency to stick together —**co·he'sive** (-hēs'iv) *adj.*

co·ho (kō'hō') *n.*, *pl.* **-ho'** or **-hos'** a small Pacific salmon now fished in N U.S. waters

co·hort (kō'hôrt') *n.* [*< L cohors, enclosure*] 1 a band of soldiers 2 any group or band 3 an associate

coif (koif; *for 2 usually* kwäf) *n.* 1 [*< LL cofea, a cap*] a closefitting cap 2 [*< fol.*] a hairstyle

coif·fure (kwä fyoor') *n.* [*Fr*] 1 a head-dress 2 a hairstyle

coil (koil) *vt.*, *vi.* [*< L com-, together + legere, gather*] to wind into circular or spiral form —*n.* 1 a series of rings or a spiral, or anything in this form 2 a single turn of a coil 3 *Elec.* a spiral of wire

coin (koin) *n.* [**<** *L cuneus*, a wedge] 1 a piece of stamped metal, issued by a government as money 2 such pieces collectively —**vt.** 1 to make (coins) by stamping metal 2 to invent (a new word, phrase, etc.) —**coin'age** *n.*

co·in·cide (kō'in sīd') *vi.* -cid'ed, -cid'ing [**<** *L co-*, together + *incidere*, fall upon] 1 to take up the same place in space 2 to occur at the same time 3 to agree exactly

co·in·ci·dence (kō in'sə dəns) *n.* 1 a coinciding 2 an accidental, but seemingly planned, occurrence of events, ideas, etc. at the same time —**co·in'ci·dent** or **co·in'ci·den'tal** *adj.* —**co·in'ci·den'tal·ly** *adv.*

co·i·tus (kō'it əs) *n.* [**<** *L < co-*, together + *ire*, go] sexual intercourse: also **co·i·tion** (kō ish'an)

coke¹ (kōk) *n.* [**<** *ME colke*, core] coal from which most of the gases have been removed by heating: used as an industrial fuel

coke² (kōk) *n.* [Slang] COCAINE

col *abbrev.* column

COL *abbrev.* 1 Colonel 2, cost of living

col- *prefix* COM-: used before *l*

co·la (kō'lə) *n.* [**<** *Afr name*] 1 an African tree with nuts that yield an extract used in soft drinks and medicine 2 a carbonated soft drink flavored with this extract

col·an·der (kul'an dər, käl'-) *n.* [prob. ult. **<** *L colum*, strainer] a perforated pan for draining off liquids

cold (kōld) *adj.* [**<** *OE cald*] 1 of a temperature much lower than normal, expected, or comfortable 2 not warmed or warmed up 3 unfriendly, indifferent, or depressing 4 devoid of feeling; emotionless 5 *a*) not fresh (said of a hunting scent) *b*) off the track 6 [Inf.] unconscious [knocked cold] 7 [Inf.] unlucky or ineffective [a cold streak in shooting a basketball] —**adv.** [Inf.] 1 completely [she was stopped cold] 2 without preparation —**n.** 1 lack of heat or warmth 2 cold weather 3 a viral infection of the respiratory tract, causing sneezing, coughing, etc. —**catch** (or **take**) cold to become ill with a cold —**have** (or **get**) cold feet [Inf.] to be (or become) timid —**in the cold** neglected —**cold'ly** *adv.* —**cold'ness** *n.*

cold'blood'ed *adj.* 1 having a body temperature that varies with the surrounding air, water, etc., as fish and reptiles 2 cruel or callous

cold cream a creamy preparation for softening and cleansing the skin

cold cuts sliced cold meats and, usually, cheeses

cold front the forward edge of a cold air mass advancing under a warmer mass

cold shoulder [Inf.] a slight; rebuff; snub —**cold'-shoul'der** *vt.*

cold sore a sore, caused by a viral infection, consisting of little blisters in or around the mouth during a cold or fever; herpes simplex

cold turkey [Slang] 1 totally and abruptly: said of withdrawal from drugs or tobacco by an addict or user 2 without preparation

cold war an extended period of conflict between nations that does not include direct warfare

cole (kōl) *n.* [**<** *L caulis*, 'cabbage] any of various plants related to the cabbage; esp., rape

cole'slaw' (-slô') *n.* [**<** *Du*: see prec. & *SLAW*] a salad of shredded raw cabbage: also **cole slaw**

co·le·us (kō'lē əs) *n.* [**<** *Gr koleos*, a sheath] any of various plants of the mint family with bright-colored leaves

col·ic (käl'ik) *n.* [**<** *Gr kōlon*, colon] 1 acute abdominal pain 2 a condition of infants with frequent crying from discomfort —**col'ick·y** *adj.*

col·i·se·um (käl'ə sē'am) *n.* [**<** *L colosseum*] a large stadium

co·li·tis (kō lit'is) *n.* [**<** *COLON*² + *-ITIS*] inflammation of the large intestine

coll *abbrev.* 1 collect 2 college

col·lab·o·rate (kə lab'ə rāt') *vi.* -rat'ed, -rat'ing [**<** *L com-*, with + *laborare*, to work] 1 to work together, esp. in some literary or scientific undertaking 2 to cooperate with the enemy —**col·lab'o·ra'tion** *n.* —**col·lab'o·ra'tor** *n.*

col·lage (kə lāzh') *n.* [**<** *Fr*, a pasting] an art form in which bits of objects are pasted together on a surface

col·la·gen (käl'ə jən) *n.* a fibrous protein in bone and cartilage

col·lapse (kə laps') *vi.* -lapsed', -laps'ing [**<** *L com-*, together + *labi*, to fall] 1 to fall down or cave in 2 to break down suddenly 3 to fail suddenly in health 4 to fold together compactly —**vt.** to make collapse —**n.** a collapsing —**col·laps'i·ble** *adj.*

col·lar (käl'ər) *n.* [**<** *L collum*, neck] 1 the part of a garment that encircles the neck 2 a band of leather, etc. for an animal's neck 3 anything like a collar —**vt.** 1 to put a collar on 2 [Inf.] to seize, as by the collar

col'lar·bone' *n.* CLAVICLE

col·lard (käl'ərd) *n.* [**<** *ME*] a kind of kale with coarse leaves

col·late (kō'lāt', käl'-) *vt.* -lat'ed, -lat'ing [**<** *L com-*, together + *latus*, brought] 1 to compare (texts, etc.) carefully 2 to put (pages) in proper order —**col·la'tor** *n.*

col·lat·er·al (kə lat'ər əl) *adj.* [**<** *L com-*, together + *lateralis*, lateral] 1 parallel or corresponding 2 accompanying or supporting [*collateral evidence*] 3 having the same ancestors but in a different line 4 designating or of security given as a pledge for the repayment of a loan, etc. —**n.** 1 a collateral relative 2 collateral security

col·la·tion (kə lā'shən) *n.* 1 the act or result of collating 2 a light meal

col·league (käl'ēg') *n.* [**<** *Fr < L com-*, with + *legare*, appoint as deputy] a fellow worker in the same profession

col·lect (kə lekt') *vt.* [**<** *L com-*, together + *legere*, gather] 1 to gather together 2 to gather (stamps, etc.) as a hobby 3 to call for and receive (money) for (bills, etc.) 4 to regain control of (oneself) —**vi.** to assemble or accumulate —**adj.**,

adv. with payment to be made by the receiver [to telephone someone *collect*]
—**col·lect'i·ble** or **col·lect'a·ble** **adj.**, **n.**
—**col·lec'tor** **n.**

col·lect'ed **adj.** 1 gathered together 2 in control of oneself; calm

col·lec'tion **n.** 1 a collecting 2 things collected 3 a mass or pile; accumulation 4 money collected

col·lec'tive **adj.** 1 formed by collecting 2 of, as, or by a group [*collective* effort] 3 designating a singular noun, as *tribe*, denoting a collection of individuals —**n.** 1 any collective enterprise; specif., a collective farm 2 the people who work together in it 3 a collective noun —**col·lec'tive·ly** **adv.**

collective bargaining negotiation between organized workers and their employer concerning wages, hours, etc.

col·lec'tiv·ism' **n.** collective ownership and control —**col·lec'tiv·ist** **n.**, **adj.** —**col·lec'tiv·ize'**, **-ized'**, **-iz'ing**, **vt.** —**col·lec'ti·vi·za'tion** **n.**

col·leen (kă lēn') **n.** [*< Ir caile*, girl] [Irish] a girl

col·lege (kăl'ij) **n.** [see COLLEAGUE] 1 a group of individuals with certain powers and duties [the electoral *college*] 2 an institution of higher education that grants degrees 3 any of the schools of a university 4 a school offering specialized instruction [a business *college*] 5 the building or buildings of a college

col·le·gial (kə lē'jəl) **adj.** 1 collegiate 2 characterized by consideration and respect among colleagues —**col·le'gi·al'i·ty** (-jē al'ə tē) **n.**

col·le·gian (kə lē'jən) **n.** a college student

col·le'giate (-jit) **adj.** of or like a college or college students

col·lide (kə līd') **vi.** -lid'ed, -lid'ing [*< L com-*, together + *laedere*, to strike] 1 to come into violent contact; crash 2 to conflict; clash

col·lid'er **n.** a research device for directing beams of subatomic particles at each other

col·lie (kăl'ē) **n.** [*< ?*] a large, long-haired dog, orig. bred as a sheepdog

col·lier (kăl'yər) **n.** [*< ME: see COAL & -IER*] [Chiefly Brit.] 1 a coal miner 2 a coal freighter

col'lier·y **n.**, **pl.** -ies [Chiefly Brit.] a coal mine and its buildings, etc.

col·li·sion (kə līzh'ən) **n.** 1 a colliding 2 a clash or conflict

col·lo·cate (kăl'ə kāt') **vt.** -cat'ed, -cat'ing [*< L com-*, together + *locare*, to place] to arrange; esp., to set side by side —**col'lo·ca'tion** **n.**

col·lo·di·on (kə lō'dē ən) **n.** a nitrocellulose solution that dries into a tough, elastic film

col·loid (kăl'oid') **n.** [*< Gr kolla*, glue + *-OID*] a substance made up of tiny particles that remain suspended in a medium of different matter —**col·loi'dal** **adj.**

col·lo·qui·al (kə lō'kwē əl) **adj.** [see COLLOQUY] 1 conversational 2 INFORMAL

(sense *d*) —**col·lo'qui·al·ism'** **n.** —**col·lo'qui·al·ly** **adv.**

col·lo'qui·um (-əm) **n.**, **pl.** -qui·a (-ə) or -qui·ums [L: see fol.] an organized conference or seminar on some subject

col·lo·quy (kăl'ə kwē) **n.**, **pl.** -quies [*< L com-*, together + *loqui*, speak] a conversation or conference

col·lude (kə lōd') **vi.** -lud'ed, -lud'ing to act in collusion; conspire

col·lu·sion (kə lōō'zhən) **n.** [*< L com-*, with + *ludere*, to play] a secret agreement for fraudulent or illegal purpose; conspiracy —**col·lu'sive** (-siv) **adj.** —**col·lu'sive·ly** **adv.**

co·logne (kə lōn') **n.** [*< Fr eau de cologne*, lit., water of Cologne, city in Germany] a perfumed toilet water made of alcohol and aromatic oils

Co·logne (kə lōn') city in W Germany, on the Rhine: pop. 962,000

Co·lom·bi·a (kə lum'bē ə) country in NW South America: 440,829 sq. mi.; pop. 29,482,000 —**Co·lom'bi·an** **adj.**, **n.**

co·lon¹ (kō'lən) **n.** [*< Gr kōlon*, verse part] a mark of punctuation (:) used before a long quotation, explanation, example, series, etc. and after the salutation of a formal letter

co·lon² (kō'lən) **n.**, **pl.** -lons or -la (-lə) [*< Gr kolon*] that part of the large intestine extending from the cecum to the rectum

colo·nel (kər'nəl) **n.** [*< It colonna*, (military) column] a military officer ranking just above a lieutenant colonel

co·lo·ni·al (kə lō'nē əl) **adj.** 1 of, in, or having a colony 2 [often C-] of the thirteen British colonies that became the U.S. —**n.** an inhabitant of a colony

co·lo'ni·al·ism' **n.** the system by which a country maintains foreign colonies, esp. for economic exploitation —**co·lo'ni·al·ist** **n.**, **adj.**

col·o·nist (kăl'ə nist) **n.** a settler or inhabitant of a colony

col'o·nize' (-nīz') **vt.**, **vi.** -nized', -niz'ing 1 to found a colony (in) 2 to settle in a colony —**col'o·ni·za'tion** **n.** —**col'o·niz'er** **n.**

col·on·nade (kăl'ə nād') **n.** [*< L columna*, column] *Archit.* a row of columns, as along the side of a building

co·lon·os·co·py (kō'lən əs'kə pē) **n.** an examination of the inside of the colon using a fiber-optic device

col·o·ny (kăl'ə nē) **n.**, **pl.** -nies [*< L colere*, cultivate] 1 *a*) a group of settlers in a distant land, under the jurisdiction of their native land *b*) the region settled 2 any territory ruled over by a distant state 3 a community of the same nationality or pursuits, as within a city 4 *Biol.* a group living or growing together

col·o·phon (kăl'ə fən, -fän') **n.** [LL *< Gr kolophōn*, top] a publisher's emblem

col·or (kul'ər) **n.** [L] 1 the property of reflecting light of a particular visible wavelength: the *colors* of the spectrum are red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet 2 any coloring matter; dye; pigment 3 color of the face or skin 4 [*pl.*] a colored badge, etc. to identify the wearer 5 [*pl.*] a flag 6 out-

ward appearance 7 vivid quality —*vt.* 1 to give color to; paint, dye, etc. 2 to change the color of 3 to alter, as by distorting [to color a story] —*vi.* 1 to become colored 2 to change color 3 to blush or flush 4 to draw or color pictures with wax crayons —*show one's (true) colors* to reveal one's true self

Col-o-rad-o (käl'ə rad'ō, -rā'dō) Mountain State of the W U.S.: 103,729 sq. mi.; pop. 3,294,000; cap. Denver: abbrev. CO —**Col'o-rad'an** *adj., n.*

Colorado Springs city in central Colorado: site of the U.S. Air Force Academy: pop. 280,000

col-or-ant (kul'ər ənt) *n.* a coloring agent

col'or-a'tion (-ā'shən) *n.* a coloring

col-o-ra-tu-ra (kul'ə rə toor'ə) *n.* [It] 1 brilliant runs, trills, etc., used to display a singer's skill 2 a soprano capable of singing such music: also *coloratura soprano*

col'or-blind' *adj.* 1 unable to distinguish certain colors or any colors 2 not influenced by considerations of race — **col'or-blind'ness** *n.*

co-lo-rec-tal (kō'lə rek'təl) *adj.* of the colon and rectum

col-ored (kul'ərd) *adj.* 1 having color 2 a) non-Caucasoid b) [Old-fashioned] BLACK (*adj.* 2)

col'or-fast' *adj.* with color not subject to fading or running

col'or-ful *adj.* 1 full of color 2 picturesque, vivid, etc. —**col'or-ful-ly** *adv.* — **col'or-ful-ness** *n.*

col'or-ing *n.* 1 anything applied to impart color; pigment, etc. 2 the way a thing is colored 3 false appearance

col'or-less *adj.* 1 without color 2 lacking interest; dull —**col'or-less-ly** *adv.* — **col'or-less-ness** *n.*

color line the barrier of social, political, and economic restrictions imposed on blacks or other nonwhites: also *color bar*

co-los-sal (kə lās'əl) *adj.* enormous in size, degree, etc.; astonishingly great — **co-los'sal-ly** *adv.*

co-los-sus (kə lās'əs) *n., pl. -si' (-ī') or -sus-es* [< Gr] 1 a gigantic statue 2 anything huge or important

co-los-to-my (kə lās'tə mē) *n., pl. -mies* a surgical construction of an artificial anal opening from the colon

co-los-trum (kə lās'trəm) *n.* [L] fluid secreted by the mammary glands just after a birth

col-our (kul'ər) *n., vt., vi.* Brit. sp. of COLOR

colt (kōlt) *n.* [OE] a young male horse, etc.

colt'ish *adj.* of or like a colt; esp., frisky, frolicsome, etc. —**colt'ish-ly** *adv.*

Co-lum-bi-a (kə lum'bē ə, -byə) 1 capital of South Carolina: pop. 98,000 2 river flowing from Canada through Washington, & along the Washington-Oregon border into the Pacific

col-um-bine (käl'əm bīn') *n.* [< L *columbinus*, dovelike] a plant of the buttercup family, having dainty, spurred flowers of various colors

Co-lum-bus¹ (kə lum'bəs), **Chris-to-pher** (kris'tə fər) 1451?-1506; It. explorer: discovered America (1492)

Columbus² 1 capital of Ohio, in the central part: pop. 633,000 2 city in W Georgia: pop. 179,000

col-umn (käl'əm) *n.* [< L *columna*] 1 a slender upright structure, usually a supporting member in a building 2 anything like a column [the spinal *column*] 3 a file formation of troops, etc. 4 any of the vertical sections of printed matter on a page 5 a feature article appearing regularly in a newspaper, etc. —**co-lum-nar** (kə lum'nər) *adj.*

col-um-nist (käl'əm nist') *n.* a writer of a COLUMN (sense 5)

Com *abbrev.* 1 Commissioner 2 Committee

com- [< L *com-*, with] *prefix* with, together: also used as an intensive

co-ma (kō'mə) *n.* [< Gr *kōma*, deep sleep] a period of deep, prolonged unconsciousness caused by injury or disease

co-ma-tose (kō'mə tōs', kām'ə-) *adj.* 1 of, like, or in a coma 2 lethargic

comb (kōm) *n.* [< OE *camb*] 1 a thin strip of hard rubber, plastic, etc., with teeth; used to arrange or clean the hair 2 any similar tool, as for cleaning and straightening wool, flax, etc. 3 a red, fleshy outgrowth on the head, as of a rooster 4 a honeycomb —*vt.* 1 to arrange, etc. with a comb 2 to search thoroughly

com-bat (kəm bat'; *for n. & adj., kām'bat')* *vi.* -bat'ed or -bat'ted, -bat'ing or -bat'ting [< Fr < L *com-*, with + *battuere*, to fight] to fight, contend, or struggle —*vt.* to fight or actively oppose —*n.* 1 armed fighting; battle 2 any struggle or conflict —*adj.* of or for military combat —**com-bat'ant** *adj., n.*

combat fatigue a psychiatric condition involving anxiety, depression, etc., as after prolonged combat in warfare

com-bat'ive *adj.* ready or eager to fight

comb'er *n.* 1 one that combs 2 a large wave that breaks on a beach, etc.

com-bi-na-tion (kām'bə nā'shən) *n.* 1 a combining or being combined 2 a thing formed by combining 3 an association of persons, firms, etc. for a common purpose 4 the series of numbers to which a dial is turned on a lock (*combination lock*) to open it

com-bine (kəm bīn'; *for n. kām'bīn')* *vt., vi.* -bined', -bin'ing [< L *com-*, together + *bini*, two by two] to join into one, as by blending; unite —*n.* 1 a machine for harvesting and threshing grain 2 an association of persons, corporations, etc. for commercial or political purposes —**com-bin'er** *n.*

comb'ings *pl.n.* loose hair, wool, etc. removed in combing

combining form a word form occurring only in compounds and derivatives (Ex.: *cardio-* in *cardiograph*)

com-bo (kām'bō') *n., pl. -bos'* 1 [Inf.] a combination 2 a small jazz ensemble

com-bust (kəm bust') *vi.* to burn

com·bus·ti·ble (kəm bus'tə bəl) *adj.* that can burn; flammable —**com·bus'ti·bil'i·ty** *n.* —**com·bus'ti·bly** *adv.*

com·bus'tion (-chən) *n.* [*< L com-, intens. + urere, to burn*] the act or process of burning

come (kum) *vi.* came, come, com'ing [*< OE cuman*] 1 to move from "there" to "here" 2 to arrive or appear 3 to extend; reach 4 to happen 5 to occur mentally [the answer came to me] 6 to occur in a certain order [after 8 comes 9] 7 to be derived or descended 8 to be a native or resident: with *from* [to come from Ohio] 9 to be caused; result 10 to proceed or progress (*along*) 11 to become [to come loose] 12 to be available [it comes in four sizes] 13 to amount (*to*) —*interj.* used to express irritation, impatience, etc. —**come about** 1 to happen 2 to turn about —**come across** (or *upon*) to meet or find by chance —**come along** 1 to appear or arrive 2 to proceed or succeed —**come around** (or *round*) 1 to recover 2 to yield —**come by** to get; gain —**come down with** to contract (a flu, etc.) —**come into** 1 to enter into 2 to inherit —**come off** 1 to become detached 2 to end up 3 [Inf.] to prove effective, etc. —**come out** 1 to be disclosed 2 to make a debut 3 to end up 4 to reveal that one is homosexual —**come out for** to announce endorsement of —**come through** 1 to complete something successfully 2 [Inf.] to do or give what is wanted —**come to** to recover consciousness —**come up** to arise, as a point in a discussion —**how come?** [Inf.] why?

come'back' *n.* 1 a return to a previous state or position, as of power 2 a witty answer; retort

co·me·di·an (kə mē'dē ən) *n.* 1 an actor who plays comic parts 2 an entertainer who tells jokes —**co·me'di·enne'** (-en') *fem.n.*

co·me'dic (-dik) *adj.* having to do with comedy

come'down' *n.* a loss of status

com·e·dy (käm'ə dē) *n., pl. -dies* [*< Gr kōmos, revel + aeidein, sing*] 1 a humorous play, etc. with a nontragic ending 2 an amusing event

come·ly (kum'lē) *adj.* -li·er, -li·est [*< OE cymlic*] attractive; fair —**come'li·ness** *n.*

come'-on' *n.* [Slang] an inducement

co·mes·ti·ble (kə mes'tə bəl) *n.* [*< L com-, intens. + edere, to eat*] [usually *pl.*] food

com·et (käm'it) *n.* [*< Gr komē, hair*] a small, frozen mass of dust and gas revolving around the sun: as it nears the sun it vaporizes, usually forming a long, luminous tail

come·up·pance (kum'up'əns) *n.* [Inf.] deserved punishment

com·fit (kum'fit, käm'-) *n.* [*< L com-, with + facere, do*] a candied fruit, nut, etc.

com·fort (kum'fərt) *vt.* [*< L com-, intens. + fortis, strong*] to soothe in distress or sorrow; console —*n.* 1 relief

from distress, etc. 2 one that comforts 3 a state of, or thing that provides, ease and quiet enjoyment —**com'fort·ing** *adj.* —**com'fort·less** *adj.*

com·fort·a·ble (kumf'tər bəl, kum'fərt ə bəl) *adj.* 1 providing comfort 2 at ease in body or mind 3 [Inf.] sufficient to satisfy [a comfortable salary] —**com'fort·a·bly** *adv.*

com'fort·er *n.* 1 one that comforts 2 a quilted bed covering

comfort station a public toilet or restroom

com·fy (kum'fē) *adj.* -fi·er, -fi·est [Inf.] comfortable

com·ic (käm'ik) *adj.* 1 of comedy 2 amusing; funny —*n.* 1 a comedian 2 the humorous element in art or life 3 a) COMIC STRIP b) [*pl.*] a section of comic strips c) a comic book

com'i·cal (-i kəl) *adj.* causing amusement; humorous; funny —**com'i·cal'i·ty** (-kal'ə tē) *n.* —**com'i·cal·ly** *adv.*

comic strip a series of cartoons telling a humorous or adventurous story, as in a newspaper or in a booklet (**comic book**)

com·ing (kum'in) *adj.* 1 approaching; next 2 showing promise of being successful, etc. —*n.* arrival or approach

com·i·ty (käm'ə tē) *n.* [*< L comis, polite*] civility

comm *abbrev.* 1 commission 2 committee

com·ma (käm'ə) *n.* [*< Gr komma, clause*] a mark of punctuation (,) used to indicate a slight separation of sentence elements

com·mand (kə mand') *vt.* [*< L com-, intens. + mandare, entrust*] 1 to give an order to; direct 2 to have authority over; control 3 to have for use [to command a fortune] 4 to deserve and get [to command respect] 5 to control (a position); overlook —*vi.* to have authority —*n.* 1 an order; direction 2 controlling power or position 3 mastery 4 military or naval force, or district, under a specified authority

com·man·dant (käm'an dant', -dänt') *n.* a commanding officer, as of a fort

com'man·deer' (-dir') *vt.* [see COMMAND] 1 to seize (property) for military or government use 2 [Inf.] to take forcibly

com·mand'er *n.* 1 one who commands 2 U.S. Navy an officer ranking just above a lieutenant commander

commander in chief *pl. commanders in chief* the supreme commander of the armed forces of a nation

com·mand'ing *adj.* 1 having authority 2 impressive 3 very large

com·mand'ment *n.* a command; specif., any of the TEN COMMANDMENTS

com·man·do (kə man'dō) *n., pl. -dos or -does* [Afrik < Port] a member of a small military force trained to operate within enemy territory

command post the field headquarters of a military unit, from which operations are directed

com·mem·o·rate (kə mem'ə rāt') *vt.* -rat'ed, -rat'ing [*< L com-, intens. + memorare, remind*] 1 to honor the

memory of, as by a ceremony 2 to serve as a memorial to —**com·mem'o-ra'tion** *n.* —**com·mem'o-ra'tor** *n.*

com·mem'o-ra-tive (-rə tiv, -rāt'iv) *adj.* commemorating —*n.* a stamp or coin marking an event, honoring a person, etc.

com·mence (kə mens') *vi., vt.* -menced', -menc'ing [*< L com-, together + initiare, begin*] to begin; start

com·mence'ment *n.* 1 a beginning; start 2 the ceremony of conferring degrees or diplomas at a school

com·mend (kə mend') *vt.* [see **COM-MAND**] 1 to put in the care of another; entrust 2 to recommend 3 to praise —**com·mend'a-ble** *adj.* —**com·mend'a-bly** *adv.* —**com·men-da-tion** (kām'an dā'shən) *n.*

com·mend-a-to-ry (kə men'də tōr'ē) *adj.* praising or recommending

com·men-su-ra-ble (kə men'shūr ə bəl, -sər-) *adj.* [*< L com-, together + mensura, measurement*] measurable by the same standard or measure

com·men'su-rate (-shūr it, -sər-) *adj.* [see *prec.*] 1 equal in measure or size; coextensive 2 proportionate 3 commensurable

com·ment (kām'ent') *n.* [*< L com-, intens. + meminisse, remember*] 1 an explanatory or critical note 2 a remark or observation 3 talk; gossip —*vi.* to make a comment or comments

com·men-tar-y (kām'an ter'ē) *n., pl.* -ies a series of explanatory notes or remarks

com'men-tate' (-tāt') *vi.* -tated, -tating to perform as a commentator

com'men-ta'tor (-tāt'ər) *n.* one who reports and analyzes events, trends, etc., as on television

com·merce (kām'ərs) *n.* [*< L com-, together + merx, merchandise*] trade on a large scale, as between countries

com·mer-cial (kə mər'shəl) *adj.* 1 of commerce or business 2 made or done for profit —*n.* *Radio, TV* a paid advertisement —**com·mer-cial-ism'** *n.* —**com·mer-cial-ly** *adv.*

com·mer-cial-ize' (-īz') *vt.* -ized', -iz'ing to make use of mainly for profit —**com·mer-cial-i-za'tion** *n.*

com·min-gle (kə min'gəl) *vt., vi.* -gled, -gling to mingle together

com·mis-er-ate (kə miz'ər āt') *vi.* -ated, -at'ing [*< L com-, intens. + miserari, to pity*] to sympathize (*with*) —**com·mis'er-a'tion** *n.*

com·mis-sar (kām'ə sār') *n.* [Russ *komissar*] the head of any former U.S.S.R. COMMISSARIAT (sense 2): now called *minister*

com'mis-sar'i-at (-ser'ē at) *n.* [Fr *< L*: see **COMMIT**] 1 an army branch providing food and supplies 2 a government department in the U.S.S.R.: now called *ministry*

com'mis-sar'y (-ser'ē) *n., pl.* -ies [see **COMMIT**] 1 a store, as in an army camp, where food and supplies are sold 2 a restaurant in a movie or TV studio

com·mis-sion (kə mish'an) *n.* [see **COMMIT**] 1 *a*) an authorization to perform

certain duties or tasks *b*) a document giving such authorization *c*) the authority so granted 2 that which one is authorized to do 3 a group of people appointed to perform specified duties 4 a committing; doing 5 a percentage of money from sales, allotted to an agent, etc. 6 *Mil.* *a*) an official certificate conferring rank *b*) the rank conferred —*vt.* 1 to give a commission to 2 to authorize 3 to put (a ship or boat) into service —*in* (or *out of*) **commission** *in* (or *not in*) working order

commissioned officer an officer in the armed forces holding a commission

com-mis'sion-er *n.* 1 a person authorized to do certain things by a commission or warrant 2 a member of a COMMISSION (*n.* 3) 3 an official in charge of a government bureau, etc. 4 a person selected to regulate and control a professional sport, an amateur league, etc.

com·mit (kə mit') *vt.* -mit'ted, -mit'ting [*< L com-, together + mittere, send*] 1 to deliver for safekeeping; entrust; consign 2 to put in custody or confinement [*committed to prison*] 3 to do or perpetrate (a crime) 4 to bind, as by a promise; pledge —*vi.* [Inf.] to make a pledge: often with *to* —**com·mit'ment** *n.* —**com·mit'tal** *n.*

com·mit-tee (kə mit'ē) *n.* [see *prec.*] a group of people chosen to report or act upon a certain matter —**com·mit'tee-man** (-mən), *pl.* -men, *n.* —**com·mit'tee-wom'an**, *pl.* -wom'en, *fem.n.*

com·mode (kə mōd') *n.* [Fr *< L*: see **COM-** & **MODE**] 1 a chest of drawers 2 a toilet

com·mod-i-fy (kə mād'ə fī') *vt.* -fied', -fy'ing to treat like or make into a mere commodity —**com·mod'i-fi-ca'tion** *n.*

com·mo-di-ous (kə mō'dē əs) *adj.* [see **COMMODE**] spacious; roomy

com·mod-i-ty (kə mād'ə tē) *n., pl.* -ties [see **COMMODE**] 1 any useful thing 2 anything bought and sold 3 [*pl.*] basic products, as of agriculture

com·mo-dore (kām'ə dōr') *n.* [see **COM-MAND**] *U.S. Navy* [Historical] an officer ranking just above a captain

com·mon (kām'an) *adj.* [*< L communis*] 1 belonging to or shared by each or all 2 general; widespread 3 familiar; usual 4 not of the upper classes [*the common people*] 5 vulgar; coarse 6 designating a noun (as *book*) that refers to any of a group —*n.* [*sometimes pl.*] land owned or used by all the inhabitants of a place —*in common* shared by each or all —**com'mon-ly** *adv.*

com'mon-al-ty (-əl tē) *n.* the common people; public: also **com'mon-al'i-ty** (-al' ə tē)

common carrier a person or company that transports people or goods for a fee

common denominator 1 a common multiple of the denominators of two or more fractions 2 a characteristic, etc. held in common

com'mon-er *n.* a person not of the nobility; one of the common people

common law the law based on custom,

usage, and judicial decisions

com'mon-law' marriage *Law* a marriage not solemnized by religious or civil ceremony

common market an association of countries for closer economic union

common multiple *Math.* a multiple of each of two or more quantities

com'mon-place' n. 1 a platitude 2 anything common or ordinary —*adj.* trite or ordinary

common pleas *Law* in some States, a court having jurisdiction over civil and criminal trials

com'mons pl.n. 1 the common people 2 [C-] HOUSE OF COMMONS 3 [often with sing. v.] a room, building, etc. for dining, as at a college

common sense good sense or practical judgment —**com'mon-sense' adj.**

common stock stock in a company without the privileges of preferred stock, but usually giving its owner a vote

com'mon-weal' (-wēl') n. the public good; general welfare

com'mon-wealth' (-welth') n. 1 the people of a nation or state 2 a democracy or republic 3 a federation of states —**the Commonwealth** association of independent nations united under the British crown for purposes of consultation and mutual assistance

Commonwealth of Independent States a loose confederation of countries that were part of the U.S.S.R.

com-mo-tion (kə mō'shən) *n.* [*< L com-, together + movere, to move*] 1 violent motion 2 confusion; bustle

com-mu-nal (kə myōon'əl, kām'yə nəl) *adj.* 1 of a commune 2 of the community; public 3 marked by common ownership of property —**com-mu'nal-ize', -ized', -iz'ing, vt.** —**com-mu'nal-ly adv.**

com-mune¹ (kə myōon') *vi.* -muned', -mun'ing [*< OFr comuner, to share*] 1 to talk together intimately 2 to be in close rapport

com-mune² (kām'yōon') *n.* [*< L communis, common*] 1 the smallest administrative district of local government in some European countries 2 a small group of people living communally

com-mu-ni-ca-ble (kə myōō'ni kə bəl) *adj.* that can be communicated, as an idea, or transmitted, as a disease —**com-mu'ni-ca-bil'i-ty n.**

com-mu'ni-cant (-kənt) *n.* one who receives Holy Communion

com-mu-ni-cate (kə myōō'ni kāt') *vt.* -cated, -cat'ing [*< L communicare*] 1 to impart; transmit 2 to give (information, etc.) —*vi.* 1 to give or exchange information 2 to have a meaningful relationship 3 to be connected, as rooms —**com-mu'ni-ca'tor n.**

com-mu'ni-ca'tion n. 1 a transmitting 2 *a)* a giving or exchanging of information, etc. *b)* a message, letter, etc. 3 a means of communicating —**com-mu'ni-ca'tive** (-kāt'iv, -kə tiv) *adj.*

com-mun-ion (kə myōon'yən) *n.* [*see COMMON*] 1 possession in common 2 a communing 3 a Christian denomination 4 [C-] HOLY COMMUNION

com-mu-ni-qué (kə myōō'ni kă', kə myōō'ni kâ') *n.* [Fr] an official communication

com-mu-nism (kām'yōō niz'əm, -yə-) *n.* [*see COMMON*] 1 any theory or system of common ownership of property 2 [often C-] *a)* socialism as formulated by Marx, Lenin, etc. *b)* any government or political movement supporting this

com'mu-nist (-nist) *n.* 1 an advocate or supporter of communism 2 [C-] a member of a Communist Party —*adj.* of, like, or supporting communism or communists —**com'mu-nis'tic adj.**

com-mu-ni-ty (kə myōō'nə tē) *n., pl. -ties* [*see COMMON*] 1 *a)* any group living in the same area or having interests, work, etc. in common *b)* such an area 2 the general public 3 a sharing in common

community college a junior college serving a certain community

community service unpaid work for the community

com-mu-ta-tive (kə myōōt'ə tiv, kām'yə tāt'iv) *adj.* 1 involving exchange or replacement 2 *Math.* of an operation in which the order of the elements does not affect the result, as, in addition, 3 + 2 = 2 + 3

com-mute (kə myōōt') *vt.* -mut'ed, -mut'ing [*< L com-, intens. + mutare, to change*] 1 to exchange; substitute 2 to change (an obligation, punishment, etc.) to a less severe one —*vi.* to travel as a commuter —*n.* [Inf.] the trip of a commuter —**com-mu-ta-tion** (kām'yə tā'shən) *n.*

com-mut'er *n.* a person who travels regularly by train, bus, etc. between two locations that are some distance apart

Com-o-ros (kām'ə rōz') country on a group of islands in the W Indian Ocean: 719 sq. mi.; pop. 347,000

comp abbrev. 1 comparative 2 compound

com-pact (kəm pakt', kām'pakt; *for n.* kām'pakt) *adj.* [*< L com-, with, together + pangere, to fix*] 1 closely and firmly packed 2 taking little space 3 terse; concise —*vt.* 1 to pack or join firmly together 2 to make by putting together —*n.* 1 a small cosmetic case, usually containing face powder and a mirror 2 a relatively small car 3 an agreement; covenant —**com-pact'ly adv.** —**com-pact'ness n.**

compact disc (or **disk**) a digital disc on which music, data, etc. has been encoded for playing on a device using a laser beam to read the encoded matter

com-pac-tor (kəm pak'tər, kām'pak'tər) *n.* a device that compresses trash into small bundles

com-pan-ion (kəm pan'yən) *n.* [*< L com-, with + panis, bread*] 1 an associate; comrade 2 a person paid to live or travel with another 3 one of a pair or set —**com-pan'ion-a-ble adj.** —**com-pan'ion-ship' n.**

com·pan'ion·way *n.* a stairway leading from one deck of a ship to another

com·pa·ny (kum'pə nē) *n., pl. -nies* [see COMPANION] 1 companionship; society 2 a group of people gathered or associated for some purpose 3 a guest or guests 4 a body of troops 5 a ship's crew —**keep company** 1 to associate (*with*) 2 to go together, as a couple intending to marry —**part company** to stop associating (*with*)

com·pa·ra·ble (kām'pə rə bəl, kəm par'ə bəl) *adj.* 1 that can be compared 2 worthy of comparison —**com'pa·ra·bly** *adv.*

com·par·a·tive (kəm par'ə tiv) *adj.* 1 involving comparison 2 not absolute; relative 3 *Gram.* designating the second degree of comparison of adjectives and adverbs —*n.* *Gram.* the comparative degree ["finer" is the comparative of "fine"] —**com·par·a·tive·ly** *adv.*

com·pare (kəm per') *vt. -pared', -par'ing* [< L *com-*, with + *parare*, make equal] 1 to liken (*to*) 2 to examine for similarities or differences 3 *Gram.* to form the degrees of comparison of —*vi.* 1 to be worth comparing (*with*) 2 to make comparisons —**beyond** (or **past** or **without**) **compare** incomparably good, bad, great, etc.

com·par·i·son (kəm par'ə sən) *n.* 1 a comparing or being compared 2 likeness; similarity 3 *Gram.* change in an adjective or adverb to show the positive, comparative, and superlative degrees —**in comparison with** compared with

com·part·ment (kəm pärt'mənt) *n.* [< L *com-*, intens. + *partire*, divide] 1 any of the divisions into which a space is partitioned off 2 a separate section or category —**com·part·men·tal·ize** (kām'pärt mənt'əl iz'), **-ized', -iz'ing, vt.**

com·pass (kum'pəs; also kām'-) *vt.* [< L *com-*, together + *passus*, a step] 1 [Archaic] to go around 2 to surround 3 to understand 4 to achieve or contrive —*n.* 1 [often *pl.*] an instrument with two adjustable legs, for drawing circles, for measuring, etc. 2 a boundary 3 an enclosed area 4 range; scope 5 an instrument for showing direction, esp. one with a swinging magnetic needle pointing north

com·pas·sion (kəm pash'ən) *n.* [< L *com-*, together + *pati*, suffer] deep sympathy; pity —**com·pas'sion·ate** *adj.* —**com·pas'sion·ate·ly** *adv.*

com·pat·i·ble (kəm pat'ə bəl) *adj.* [see prec.] 1 getting along or going well together 2 that can be mixed, used, etc. together effectively —**com·pat'i·bil'i·ty** *n.* —**com·pat'i·bly** *adv.*

com·pa·tri·ot (kəm pā'trē ət) *n.* [see COM- & PATRIOT] a person of one's own country

com·peer (kām'pir', kəm pir') *n.* [see COM- & PAR] 1 an equal; peer 2 a comrade

com·pel (kəm pel') *vt. -pelled', -pel'ling* [< L *com-*, together + *pellere*, to drive] to force or get by force —**com·pel'ling·ly** *adv.*

com·pen·di·um (kəm pen'dē əm) *n., pl. -ums or -a (-ə)* [< L *com-*, together +

pendere, weigh] a concise but comprehensive summary

com·pen·sate (kām'pən sāt') *vt. -sat'ed, -sat'ing* [< L *com-*, with + *pendere*, weigh] 1 [Now Rare] to make up for; counterbalance 2 to make suitable payment to —*vi.* to make or serve as amends (*for*) —**com'pen·sa'tion** *n.* —**com·pen·sa·to·ry** (kəm pen'sə tōr'ē) *adj.*

com·pete (kəm pēt') *vi. -pet'ed, -pet'ing* [< L *com-*, together + *petere*, to desire] to be in rivalry; contend; vie (*in* a contest, etc.)

com·pe·tence (kām'pə təns) *n.* 1 sufficient means for one's needs 2 ability; fitness 3 legal power, jurisdiction, etc. Also **com'pe·ten·cy** (-tən sē)

com'pe·tent (-tənt) *adj.* [see COMPETE] 1 capable; fit 2 sufficient; adequate 3 having legal competence —**com'pe·tent·ly** *adv.*

com·pe·ti·tion (kām'pə tish'ən) *n.* [L *competitio*] 1 a competing; rivalry 2 a contest; match 3 rivalry in business 4 those against whom one competes —**com·pet·i·tive** (kəm pet'ə tiv) *adj.*

com·pet·i·tor (kəm pet'ət ər) *n.* [L] one who competes, as a business rival

com·pile (kəm pil') *vt. -piled', -pil'ing* [< L *com-*, together + *pilare*, to compress] 1 to collect and assemble (statistics, facts, etc.) 2 to compose (a book, etc.) of materials from various sources —**com·pi·la·tion** (kām'pə lā'shən) *n.*

com·pla·cen·cy (kəm plā'sən sē) *n.* [< L *com-*, intens. + *placere*, to please] contentment; often, specif., self-satisfaction, or smugness: also **com·pla'cence** —**com·pla'cent** *adj.*

com·plain (kəm plān') *vi.* [< L *com-*, intens. + *plangere*, to strike] 1 to express pain, displeasure, etc. 2 to find fault 3 to make an accusation —**com·plain'er** *n.*

com·plain'ant (-ənt) *n.* *Law* a plaintiff
com·plaint' (-plānt') *n.* 1 a complaining 2 a cause for complaining 3 an ailment 4 *Law* a formal charge or accusation

com·plai·sant (kəm plā'zənt, -sənt) *adj.* [see COMPLACENCY] willing to please; obliging —**com·plai'sant·ly** *adv.* —**com·plai'sance** *n.*

com·plect'ed (-plek'tid) *adj.* COMPLEXIONED

com·ple·ment (kām'plə mənt; *for v., -ment'*) *n.* [see fol.] 1 that which completes or perfects 2 the amount needed to fill or complete 3 *Math.* the number of degrees that must be added to a given angle to make it equal 90 degrees —*vt.* to make complete —**com'ple·men'ta·ry** (-men'tə rē) *adj.*

com·plete (kəm plēt') *adj.* [< L *com-*, intens. + *plere*, fill] 1 whole; entire 2 finished 3 thorough; absolute —*vt.* **-plet'ed, -plet'ing** 1 to finish 2 to make whole or perfect 3 to successfully execute —**com·plete'ly** *adv.* —**com·plete'ness** *n.* —**com·ple'tion** (-plē'shən) *n.*

com·plex (kəm pleks', kām'pleks' *for n.* kām'pleks') *adj.* [< L *com-*, with +

plectere, to weave] 1 consisting of two or more related parts 2 complicated — *n.* 1 a complex whole 2 an assemblage of units, as buildings 3 *Psychoanalysis* *a)* a group of mainly unconscious impulses, etc. strongly influencing behavior *b)* popularly, an exaggerated dislike or fear — *com·plex'i·ty n.*

complex fraction a fraction with a fraction in its numerator or denominator, or in both

com·plex·ion (kəm plek'shən) *n.* [see COMPLEX] 1 the color, texture, etc. of the skin, esp. of the face 2 nature; character; aspect

com·plex'ioned *adj.* having a (specified) complexion [*light-complexioned*]

complex sentence a sentence consisting of an independent clause and one or more dependent clauses

com·pli·ance (kəm pli'əns) *n.* 1 a complying; acquiescence 2 a tendency to give in readily to others. Also *com·pli'an·cy* — *com·pli'ant* *adj.*

com·pli·cate (kəm'pli kāt') *vt., vi.* -cat'ed, -cat'ing [< L *com-*, together + *plicare*, to fold] to make or become intricate, difficult, or involved — *com'pli-ca'tion n.*

com'pli-cat'ed *adj.* intricately involved; hard to solve, analyze, etc.

com·plic-i-tous (kəm plis'ə təs) *adj.* having complicity; implicated: also *com·plic'it* (-it)

com·plic'i·ty (-tē) *n., pl. -ties* [see COMPLICATE] partnership in wrongdoing

com·pli·ment (kəm'plə mənt; *for v., -ment'*) *n.* [Fr < L: see COMPLETE] 1 a formal act of courtesy 2 something said in praise 3 [*pl.*] respects — *vt.* to pay a compliment to

com'pli·men'ta·ry (-men'tə rē) *adj.* 1 paying or containing a compliment 2 given free as a courtesy

com·ply (kəm pli') *vi.* -plied', -ply'ing [see COMPLETE] to act in accordance (*with* a request, order, etc.)

com·po·nent (kəm pō'nənt) *adj.* [see COMPOSITE] serving as one of the parts of a whole — *n.* a part, element, or ingredient

com·port (kəm pōrt') *vt.* [< L *com-*, together + *portare*, carry] to behave (oneself) in a specified manner — *vi.* to accord (*with*) — *com·port'ment n.*

com·pose (kəm pōz') *vt.* -posed', -pos'ing [< OFr *com-*, with + *poser*, to place] 1 to make up; constitute 2 to put in proper form 3 to create (a musical or literary work) 4 to make calm 5 *a)* to set (type) *b)* to produce (printed matter) as by computer, etc. — *vi.* to create musical works, etc. — *com·pos'er n.*

com·posed' *adj.* calm; self-possessed

com·pos·ite (kəm pōz'it) *adj.* [< L *com-*, together + *ponere*, to place] 1 compound 2 *Bot.* designating a large family of plants with flower heads composed of dense clusters of small flowers, including the daisy and the chrysanthemum — *n.* a thing of distinct parts — *com·pos'ite·ly adv.*

com·po·si·tion (kəm'pə zish'ən) *n.* 1 a

composing, esp. of literary or musical works 2 the makeup of a person or thing 3 something composed

com·pos·i·tor (kəm pōz'ət ər) *n.* one who sets matter for printing, esp. a typesetter

com·post (kəm'pōst') *n.* [see COMPOSITE] a mixture of decomposing vegetable refuse for fertilizing soil — *vt.* to convert (vegetable matter) into compost

com·po·sure (kəm pō'zhər) *n.* [see COMPOSE] calmness; self-possession

com·pote (kəm'pōt') *n.* [Fr: see COMPOSITE] 1 a dish of stewed fruits 2 a long-stemmed dish, as for candy

com·pound¹ (kəm paund', kəm'paund'; *for adj. usually & for n. always, kəm'paund'*) *vt.* [see COMPOSITE] 1 to mix or combine 2 to make by combining parts 3 to compute (compound interest) 4 to increase or intensify by adding something new — *adj.* made up of two or more parts — *n.* 1 a thing formed by combining parts 2 a substance containing two or more elements chemically combined — **compound a felony** (or crime) to agree, for payment, not to inform about or prosecute a felony (or crime)

com·pound² (kəm'paund') *n.* [Malay *kāmpong*] an enclosed area with a building or buildings in it

compound eye an eye made up of numerous simple eyes functioning collectively, as in insects

compound fracture a fracture in which the broken bone pierces the skin

compound interest interest paid on both the principal and the accumulated unpaid interest

compound sentence a sentence consisting of two or more independent, coordinate clauses

com·pre·hend (kəm'prē hend', -pri-) *vt.* [< L *com-*, with + *prehendere*, seize] 1 to grasp mentally; understand 2 to include; take in; comprise — *com'pre·hen'si·ble* (-hen'sə bəl) *adj.* — *com'pre·hen'sion n.*

com'pre·hen'sive (-hen'siv) *adj.* wide in scope; inclusive — *com'pre·hen'sive·ly adv.* — *com'pre·hen'sive·ness n.*

com·press (kəm pres'; *for n. kəm'pres'*) *vt.* [< L *com-*, together + *premere*, to press] to press together and make more compact — *n.* a pad of folded cloth, often wet or medicated, applied to the skin — *com·pressed'* *adj.* — *com·pres'sion n.*

com·pres'sor (-pres'ər) *n.* a machine, esp. a pump, for compressing air, gas, etc.

com·prise' (-prīz') *vt.* -prised', -pris'ing [see COMPREHEND] 1 to consist of 2 to make up; form

com·pro·mise (kəm'prə mīz') *n.* [< L *com-*, together + *promittere*, to promise] 1 a settlement in which each side makes concessions 2 something midway — *vt., vi.* -mised', -mis'ing 1 to adjust by compromise 2 to lay open to suspicion, disrepute, etc. 3 to weaken

comp·trol·ler (kən trō'lər) *n.* [altered (infl. by Fr *compte*, an account) < CONTROLLER] CONTROLLER (sense 1, esp. in government usage)

com·pul·sion (kəm pul'shən) *n.* 1 a compelling or being compelled 2 a driving force 3 an irresistible impulse to perform some act —**com·pul'sive** (-siv) *adj.* —**com·pul'sive·ly** *adv.*

com·pul'so·ry (-sə rē) *adj.* 1 obligatory; required 2 compelling

com·punc·tion (kəm punk'shən) *n.* [*< L com-, intens. + pungere, to prick*] an uneasy feeling prompted by guilt; remorse

com·pute (kəm pyōōt') *vt.* -put'ed, -put'ing [*< L com-, with + putare, reckon*] to calculate (an amount, etc.) — *vi.* 1 to calculate an amount, etc. 2 [*Inf.*] to make sense —**com·pu·ta·tion** (kəm'pyōō tā'shən) *n.*

com·put'er *n.* an electronic machine that performs rapid, complex calculations or compiles and correlates data — **com·put'er·ize'**, -ized', -iz'ing, *vt.* — **com·put'er·i·za'tion** *n.*

com·rade (kəm'rad', -rəd) *n.* [*< Sp camarada, chamber mate < L camera, room*] 1 a friend; close companion 2 an associate —**com'rade·ship** *n.*

con¹ (kän) *adv.* [*< L contra*] against —*n.* an opposing reason, vote, etc.

con² (kän) *vt.* conned, con'ning [*< OE cunnan, know*] to study carefully

con³ (kän) *adj.* [Slang] CONFIDENCE [*a con man*] —*vt.* conned, con'ning [Slang] to swindle or trick

con⁴ (kän) *n.* [Slang] short for CONVICT

con- *prefix* COM-: used before *c, d, g, j, n, q, s, t, v*, and sometimes *f*

con·cat·e·na·tion (kən kat'n ā'shən, kän-) *n.* [*< L com-, together + catena, a chain*] a connected series, as of events

con·cave (kän kāv', kän'kāv') *adj.* [*< L com-, intens. + cavus, hollow*] hollow and curved like the inside half of a bowl —**con·cav'i·ty** (-kav'ə tē), *pl.* -ties, *n.*

con·ceal (kən sēl') *vt.* [*< L com-, together + celare, to hide*] 1 to hide 2 to keep secret —**con·ceal'ment** *n.*

con·cede (kən sēd') *vt.* -ced'ed, -ced'ing [*< L com-, with + cedere, cede*] 1 to admit as true, valid, certain, etc. 2 to grant as a right

con·ceit (kən sēt') *n.* [*see CONCEIVE*] 1 an exaggerated opinion of oneself, one's merits, etc.; vanity 2 a fanciful expression or notion

con·ceit'ed *adj.* vain

con·ceiv·a·ble (kən sēv'ə bəl) *adj.* that can be understood, imagined, or believed —**con·ceiv'a·bil'i·ty** *n.* —**con·ceiv'a·bly** *adv.*

con·ceive (kən sēv') *vt.* -ceived', -ceiv'ing [*< L com-, together + capere, take*] 1 to become pregnant with 2 to form in the mind; imagine 3 to understand —*vi.* 1 to become pregnant 2 to form an idea (*of*)

con·cen·trate (kän'sən trāt') *vt.* -trat'ed, -trat'ing [*< L com-, together + centrum, center + -ATE¹*] 1 to focus (one's thoughts, efforts, etc.) 2 to increase the strength, density, etc. of — *vi.* to fix one's attention (*on* or *upon*) — *n.* a concentrated substance —**con'cen·tra'tion** *n.*

concentration camp a prison camp for

political dissidents, ethnic minorities, etc.

con·cen·tric (kən sen'trik) *adj.* [*< L com-, together + centrum, center*] having a common center: said of circles — **con·cen'tri·cal·ly** *adv.*

con·cept (kän'sept') *n.* [*see CONCEIVE*] an idea or thought; abstract notion

con·cep·tion (kən sep'shən) *n.* 1 a conceiving or being conceived in the womb 2 the beginning, as of a process 3 the formulation of ideas 4 a concept 5 an original idea or design

con·cep'tu·al (-chōō əl) *adj.* of conception or concepts —**con·cep'tu·al·ly** *adv.*

con·cep'tu·al·ize' (-īz') *vt.* -ized', -iz'ing to form a concept of —**con·cep'tu·al·i·za'tion** *n.*

con·cern (kən surn') *vt.* [*< L com-, with + cernere, sift*] 1 to have a relation to 2 to engage or involve 3 to cause to feel uneasy —*n.* 1 a matter of interest to one 2 interest in or regard for a person or thing 3 worry; anxiety 4 a business firm —**as concerns** in regard to —**con·cern oneself** 1 to busy oneself 2 to be worried

con·cerned' *adj.* 1 involved or interested (*in*) 2 uneasy or anxious

con·cern'ing *prep.* relating to; about

con·cert (kän'sərt) *n.* [*< L com-, with + certare, strive*] 1 mutual agreement; concord 2 a performance of music —**in concert** in unison

con·cert·ed (kən sɜrt'id) *adj.* mutually arranged or agreed upon; combined — **con·cert'ed·ly** *adv.*

con·cer·ti·na (kän'sər tē'nə) *n.* [*< CONCERT*] a small accordion

con·cert·ize (kän'sər tīz') *vi.* -ized', -iz'ing to perform as a soloist in concerts, esp. while touring

con'cert·mas'ter *n.* the leader of the first violin section of a symphony orchestra, and often the assistant to the conductor

con·cer·to (kən cher'tō) *n., pl.* -tos or -ti (-tē) [*It*] a musical composition for one or more solo instruments and an orchestra

con·ces·sion (kən sesh'ən) *n.* 1 a conceding 2 a thing conceded; acknowledgment 3 a privilege granted by a government, company, etc., as the right to sell food at a park

con·ces'sion·aire' (-ə ner') *n.* [*< Fr*] the holder of a CONCESSION (sense 3)

conch (känk, känch) *n., pl.* conchs (känks) or conch·es (kän'chiz) [*< Gr konchē*] the spiral, one-piece shell of various sea mollusks

con·ci·erge (kän'sē erz'h'; *Fr* kōn syerzh') *n.* [*Fr < L conservus, fellow slave*] a custodian or head porter, as of an apartment house or hotel

con·cil·i·ar (kən sil'ē ər) *adj.* of, from, or by means of a council

con·cil'i·ate' (-āt') *vt.* -at'ed, -at'ing [*see COUNCIL*] to win over; make friendly; placate —**con·cil'i·a'tion** *n.* —**con·cil'i·a'tor** *n.* —**con·cil'i·a'to'ry** (-ə tōr'ē) *adj.*

con·cise (kən sis') *adj.* [*< L com-, intens.*

+ *caedere*, to cut] brief and to the point; short and clear —**con·cise'ly** *adv.* —**con·cise'ness** *n.* —**con·ci'sion** (-sizh'an) *n.*

con·clave (kän'klāv') *n.* [L *com-*, with + *clavis*, a key] 1 a private meeting; specif., one held by cardinals to elect a pope 2 any large convention

con·clude (kən klōōd') *vt., vi.* -clud'ed, -clud'ing [L *com-*, together + *claudere*, to shut] 1 to end; finish 2 to deduce 3 to decide; determine 4 to arrange (a treaty, etc.)

con·clu'sion (-klōō'zhən) *n.* 1 the end 2 a judgment or opinion formed after thought 3 an outcome 4 a concluding (of a treaty, etc.) —**in conclusion** lastly; in closing

con·clu'sive (-siv) *adj.* final; decisive —**con·clu'sive·ly** *adv.* —**con·clu'sive·ness** *n.*

con·coct (kən kăkt') *vt.* [L *com-*, together + *coquere*, to cook] 1 to make by combining ingredients 2 to devise; plan —**con·coc'tion** *n.*

con·com'i·tant (-kăm'ə tăt) *adj.* [L *com-*, together + *comes*, companion] accompanying; attendant —*n.* a concomitant thing —**con·com'i·tant·ly** *adv.*

con·cord (kän'kôrd', kăn'-) *n.* [L *com-*, together + *cor*, heart] 1 agreement; harmony 2 peaceful relations, as between nations

Con·cord (kän'kôrd; for 2 kăn'kærd) 1 city in W California: pop. 111,000 2 capital of New Hampshire: pop. 36,000

con·cord·ance (kən kôrd'ns) *n.* 1 agreement 2 an alphabetical list of the words used in a book, with references to the passages in which they occur

con·cord'ant *adj.* agreeing

con·cor·dat (kən kôr'dat') *n.* [Fr < L: see CONCORD] a formal agreement

Con·cord (grape) (kăn'kærd) a large, dark-blue grape used esp. for juice and jelly

con·course (kän'kôrs') *n.* [see CONCUR] 1 a crowd; throng 2 an open space for crowds, as in a park 3 a broad thoroughfare

con·crete (kän'krēt', kăn krēt') *adj.* [L *com-*, together + *crescere*, grow] 1 having a material existence; real; actual 2 specific, not general 3 made of concrete —*n.* 1 anything concrete 2 a hard building material made of sand and gravel, bonded together with cement —*vt., vi.* -cret'ed, -cret'ing 1 to solidify 2 to cover with concrete —**con·crete'ly** *adv.* —**con·crete'ness** *n.*

con·cre·tion (kən krē'shən) *n.* 1 a solidifying 2 a solidified mass

con·cu·bine (kän'kyōō bīn', kăn'-) *n.* [L *com-*; with + *cubare*, lie down] in some societies, a secondary wife, of inferior social and legal status

con·cu·pis·cence (kən kyōōp'ə səns) *n.* [L *com-*, intens. + *cupiscere*, to desire] strong desire, esp. sexual desire; lust —**con·cu'pis·cent** *adj.*

con·cur (kən kər') *vi.* -curred', -cur'ring [L *com-*, together + *currere*, to run] 1 to occur at the same time 2 to act together 3 to agree (*with*) —**con·**

cur'rence *n.*

con·cur'rent *adj.* 1 occurring at the same time 2 acting together 3 *Law* having equal authority —**con·cur'rent·ly** *adv.*

con·cus·sion (kən kush'an) *n.* [L *com-*, together + *quaterere*, to shake] 1 a violent shaking; shock, as from impact 2 a condition of impaired functioning, esp. of the brain, caused by a violent blow —**con·cus'sive** (-kus'iv) *adj.*

con·demn (kən dem') *vt.* [L *com-*, intens. + *damnare*, to harm] 1 to disapprove of strongly 2 to declare guilty 3 to inflict a penalty upon 4 to doom 5 to appropriate (property) for public use 6 to declare unfit for use —**con·dem·na·tion** (kän'dem nā'shən) *n.* —**con·dem·na·to·ry** (kən dem'nə tōr'ē) *adj.* —**con·demn'er** *n.*

con·dense (kən dens') *vt.* -densed', -dens'ing [L *com-*, intens. + *densus*, dense] 1 to make more dense or compact 2 to express in fewer words 3 to change to a denser form, as from gas to liquid —*vi.* to become condensed —**con·den·sa·tion** (kän'dən sā'shən) *n.*

condensed milk milk made very thick by evaporation, sweetened with sugar, and then canned

con·dens'er *n.* one that condenses; specif., a) an apparatus for liquefying gases b) a lens for concentrating light rays c) *Elec.* CAPACITOR

con·de·scend (kän'di send') *vi.* [L *com-*, together + *descendere*, descend] 1 to be gracious about doing a thing regarded as beneath one's dignity 2 to deal with others in a proud or haughty way —**con'de·scend'ing·ly** *adv.* —**con'de·scen'sion** (-sen'shən) *n.*

con·dign (kən dīn', kăn'dīn') *adj.* [L *com-*, intens. + *dignus*, worthy] deserved; suitable: said esp. of punishment

con·di·ment (kän'də mənt) *n.* [L *con-*, to pickle] a seasoning or relish, as pepper, mustard, or a sauce

con·di·tion (kən dish'an) *n.* [L *com-*, together + *dicere*, to speak] 1 anything required for the performance, completion, or existence of something else; provision or prerequisite 2 a) state of being b) an illness c) a healthy state 3 social position; rank —*vt.* 1 to stipulate 2 to impose a condition on 3 to bring into fit condition 4 to make accustomed (*to*) —**on condition that** provided that; if —**con·di'tion·er** *n.*

con·di'tion·al *adj.* containing, expressing, or dependent on a condition; qualified —*n.* *Gram.* a word, clause, tense, etc. expressing a condition —**con·di'tion·al·ly** *adv.*

con·di'tioned *adj.* 1 subject to conditions 2 in a desired condition 3 affected by conditioning 4 accustomed (*to*)

con·do (kän'dō) *n., pl.* -dos or -does *short for* CONDOMINIUM (sense 3)

con·dole (kən dōl') *vi.* -doled', -dol'ing [L *com-*, with + *dolere*, grieve] to express sympathy; commiserate —**con·do'lence** *n.*

con·dom (kän'dəm, kun'-) *n.* [L *It*

guanto, a glove] a thin, latex sheath for the penis, used as a prophylactic or contraceptive

con·do·min·i·um (kän'də min'ē əm) *n.* [ult. < L *com-*, with + *dominium*, ownership] 1 joint rule by two or more states 2 the territory ruled 3 one of the units in a multiunit dwelling, each separately owned; also, the dwelling as a whole

con·done (kən dōn') *vt.* -doned', -don'ing [< L *com-*, intens. + *donare*, give] to forgive or overlook (an offense) —**con·don'a·ble** *adj.*

con·dor (kän'dər, -dôr) *n.* [< Sp < AmInd (Peru)] 1 a large vulture of the South American Andes, with a bare head and neck 2 a similar vulture of S California

con·duce (kən dōs') *vi.* -duced', -duc'ing [< L *com-*, together + *ducere*, to lead] to tend or lead (to an effect) —**con·du'cive** *adj.*

con·duct (kän'dukt'; *for v.* kən dukt') *n.* [< L *com-*, together + *ducere*, to lead] 1 management 2 behavior —*vt.* 1 to lead 2 to manage 3 to direct (an orchestra, etc.) 4 to behave (oneself) 5 to transmit or convey —**con·duc'tion** (-duk'shən) *n.* —**con·duc'tive** *adj.* —**con·duc'tiv'i·ty** (-duk tiv'ə tē) *n.*

con·duct·ance (kən duk'təns) *n.* the ability to conduct electricity

con·duc'tor *n.* 1 the leader of an orchestra, etc. 2 one in charge of the passengers on a train 3 a thing that conducts electricity, heat, etc.

con·du·it (kän'dō it) *n.* [see CONDUCE] 1 a channel for conveying fluids 2 a tube for electric wires

cone (kōn) *n.* [< Gr *kōnos*] 1 a solid with a circle for its base and a curved surface tapering to a point 2 any cone-shaped object 3 the scaly fruit of evergreen trees 4 a light-sensitive cell in the retina

Co·ney Island (kō'nē) beach & amusement park in Brooklyn, New York

con·fab (kän'fab') *n.* [ult. < L *com-*, together + *fabulari*, to converse] [Inf.] a chat

con·fec·tion (kən fek'shən) *n.* [< L *com-*, with + *facere*, make] a candy or other sweet, as ice cream

con·fec'tion·er *n.* one who makes or sells candy and other confections

con·fec'tion·er'y (-er'ē) *n.*, *pl.* -ies a confectioner's shop; candy store

con·fed·er·a·cy (kən fed'ər ə sē) *n.*, *pl.* -cies a league or alliance —**the Confederacy** the 11 Southern states that seceded from the U.S. in 1860 & 1861: official name, Confederate States of America

con·fed'er·ate (-it; *for v.*, -āt') *adj.* [< L *com-*, together + *foedus*, a league] 1 united in an alliance 2 [C-] of the Confederacy —*n.* 1 an ally; associate 2 an accomplice 3 [C-] a Southern supporter of the Confederacy —*vt.*, *vi.* -at'ed, -at'ing to unite in a confederacy; ally

con·fed'er·a'tion *n.* a league or federation

con·fer (kən fər') *vt.* -ferred', -fer'ring [< L *com-*, together + *ferre*, to bear] to

give or bestow —*vi.* to have a conference —**con·fer·ee** (kän'fər ē') *n.* —**con·fer'rer** *n.*

con·fer·ence (kän'fər əns) *n.* 1 a formal meeting for discussion 2 an association of schools, churches, etc.

con·fer·ral (kən fər'al) *n.* the bestowing of an honor, degree, or favor: also **con·fer'ment** *n.*

con·fess (kən fes') *vt.*, *vi.* [< L *com-*, together + *fateri*, acknowledge] 1 to admit or acknowledge (a fault, crime, belief, etc.) 2 *a*) to tell (one's sins) to God or a priest *b*) to hear the confession of (a person) (said of a priest) —**confess to** to acknowledge

con·fess'ed·ly (-id lē) *adv.* admittedly

con·fes·sion (kən fesh'an) *n.* 1 a confessing 2 something confessed 3 *a*) a creed *b*) a church having a creed

con·fes'sion·al *n.* an enclosure in a church, where a priest hears confessions

con·fes'sor *n.* 1 one who confesses 2 a priest who hears confessions

con·fet·ti (kən fet'ē) *n.* [< It, sweetmeats] bits of colored paper scattered about at celebrations

con·fi·dant (kän'fə dant', -dänt') *n.* a close, trusted friend —**con'fi·dante'** (-dant', -dänt') *fem.n.*

con·fide (kən fid') *vi.* -fid'ed, -fid'ing [< L *com-*, intens. + *fidere*, to trust] to trust (*in* someone), esp. by sharing secrets —*vt.* 1 to tell about as a secret 2 to entrust

con·fi·dence (kän'fə dəns) *n.* 1 trust; reliance 2 assurance 3 belief in one's own abilities 4 the belief that another will keep a secret 5 something told as a secret —*adj.* swindling or used so as to swindle

confidence game a swindle effected by one (confidence man) who first gains the confidence of the victim

con'fi·dent (-dənt) *adj.* full of confidence; specif., *a*) certain *b*) sure of oneself —**con'fi·dent·ly** *adv.*

con'fi·den'tial (-den'shəl) *adj.* 1 secret 2 of or showing trust 3 entrusted with private matters —**con'fi·den'ti·al'i·ty** (-shē əl'ə tē) *n.* —**con'fi·den'tial·ly** *adv.*

con·fig·u·ra·tion (kən fig'yə rā'shən) *n.* [< L *com-*, together + *figurare*, to form] 1 arrangement of parts 2 contour; outline

con·fig'ure (-yər) *vt.* -ured, -ur-ing to arrange in a certain way

con·fine (kän'fin'; *for v.* kən fin') *n.* [< L *com-*, with + *finis*, an end] [usually *pl.*] a boundary or bounded region —*vt.* -fined', -fin'ing 1 to keep within limits; restrict 2 to keep shut up, as in prison or a sickbed —**con·fine'ment** *n.*

con·firm (kən farm') *vt.* [< L *com-*, intens. + *firmare*, strengthen] 1 to make firm 2 to give formal approval to 3 to prove the truth of 4 to cause to undergo religious confirmation

con·fir·ma·tion (kän'fər mǎ'shən) *n.* 1 a confirming 2 something that confirms 3 a Christian ceremony admitting a person to full church member-

ship, etc. 4 a Jewish ceremony reaffirming basic beliefs

con·firmed' *adj.* 1 firmly established; habitual 2 corroborated

con·fis·cate (kän'fis kät') *vt.* -cat'ed, -cat'ing [*< L com-, together + fiscus, treasury*] 1 to seize (private property) for the public treasury as a penalty 2 to seize by or as by authority; appropriate —**con'fis-ca'tion** *n.* —**con'fis-ca'tor** *n.*

con·fis·ca·to·ry (kän fis'kə tōr'ē) *adj.* of or effecting confiscation

con·fla·gra·tion (kän'flə grā'shən) *n.* [*< L com-, intens. + flagrare, to burn*] a big, destructive fire

con·flict (kən flikt'; *for n. kən'flikt')* *vi.* [*< L com-, together + fligere, to strike*] to be antagonistic, incompatible, etc. — *n.* 1 a fight or war 2 sharp disagreement, as of interests or ideas 3 emotional disturbance due to conflicting impulses, ideas, etc.

con·flict'ed *adj.* in emotional conflict

conflict of interest a conflict between one's obligation to the public, as that of a public officeholder, and one's self-interest

con·flic·tu·al (kən flik'chō əl) *adj.* characterized by or having to do with conflict

con·flu·ence (kän'flō əns) *n.* [*< L com-, together + fluere, to flow*] 1 a flowing together, esp. of streams 2 the place of this 3 a crowd —**con'flu·ent** *adj.*

con·form (kən fōrm') *vt.* [*< L com-, together + formare, to form*] 1 to make similar 2 to bring into agreement —*vi.* 1 to be or become similar 2 to be in agreement 3 to act in accordance with accepted rules, customs, etc. —**con·form'ism** *n.* —**con·form'ist** *n.*

con·for·ma·tion (kän'fōr mǎ'shən) *n.* 1 a symmetrical arrangement of the parts of a thing 2 the shape or outline, as of an animal

con·form·i·ty (kən fōr'mə tē) *n., pl. -ties* 1 agreement; correspondence; similarity 2 conventional behavior

con·found (kən found'; *for 2 kən'-*) *vt.* [*< L com-, together + fundere, pour*] 1 to confuse or bewilder 2 to damn: a mild oath —**con·found'ed** *adj.*

con·fra·ter·ni·ty (kän'frə tur'nə tē) *n., pl. -ties* [*see CON- & FRATERNAL*] 1 brotherhood 2 a religious society, usually of laymen

con·frere (kän'frer', kən frer') *n.* [*OFr*] a colleague or associate

con·front (kən frunt') *vt.* [*< L com-, together + frons, forehead*] 1 to face, esp. boldly or defiantly 2 to bring face to face (*with*) —**con·fron·ta·tion** (kän'frən tā'shən) *n.* —**con'fron·ta'tion·al** *adj.*

Con·fu·cius (kən fyōō'shəs) 551?-479? B.C.; Chin. philosopher —**Con·fu'cian** (-shən) *adj., n.*

con·fuse (kən fyōōz') *vt.* -fused', -fus'ing [*see CONFOUND*] 1 to put into disorder 2 to bewilder or embarrass 3 to mistake the identity of —**con·fus'ed·ly** *adv.*

con·fu'sion (-fyōō'zhən) *n.* a confusing or being confused; specif., disorder, bewilderment, etc.

con·fute (kən fyōōt') *vt.* -fut'ed, -fut'ing [*L confutare*] to prove to be in error or false —**con·fu·ta·tion** (kän'fyōō tā'shən) *n.*

Cong *abbrev.* 1 Congregational 2 Congress

con·geal (kən jēl') *vt., vi.* [*< L com-, together + gelare, freeze*] 1 to freeze 2 to thicken; coagulate; jell —**con·geal'ment** *n.*

con·ge·nial (kən jēn'yəl) *adj.* [*see CON- & GENIAL*] 1 kindred; compatible 2 like-minded; friendly 3 suited to one's needs; agreeable —**con·ge'ni·al'i·ty** (-jē'nē al'ə tē) *n.* —**con·ge'ni·al·ly** *adv.*

con·gen·i·tal (kən jen'ə təl) *adj.* [*< L congenitus, born together with*] existing as such at birth —**con·gen'i·tal·ly** *adv.*

con·ger (eel) (kän'gər) [*< Gr gongros*] a large, edible saltwater eel

con·ge·ries (kän'jə rēz') *n., pl. -ries'* [*L: see fol.*] a heap or pile of things

con·gest (kən jest') *vt.* [*< L com-, together + gerere, carry*] 1 to cause too much blood, mucus, etc. to accumulate in (a part of the body) 2 to fill to excess; overcrowd —**con·ges'tion** *n.* —**con·ges'tive** *adj.*

con·glom·er·ate (kən glām'ər āt'; *for adj. & n., -it*) *vt., vi.* -at'ed, -at'ing [*< L com-, together + glomus, ball*] to form into a rounded mass —*adj.* 1 formed into a rounded mass 2 formed of substances collected into a single mass, esp. of rock fragments or pebbles cemented together by clay, silica, etc. — *n.* 1 a conglomerate mass 2 a large corporation formed by merging many diverse companies 3 a conglomerate rock —**con·glom'er-a'tion** *n.*

Con·go (kän'gō) 1 river in central Africa, flowing into the Atlantic 2 **Democratic Republic of the Congo** country in central Africa: 905,365 sq. mi.; pop. 29,671,000: formerly *Belgian Congo* (1908-60), *Zaire* (1971-97) 3 **Republic of the Congo** country in WC Africa, west of Democratic Republic of the Congo: 131,978 sq. mi.; pop. 1,909,000: formerly *People's Republic of the Congo* —**Con·go·lese** (kän'gə lēz') *adj., n.*

con·grat·u·late (kən grach'ə lāt') *vt.* -lat'ed, -lat'ing [*< L com-, together + gratulari, to wish joy*] to express to (another) one's pleasure at that person's good fortune, etc.; felicitate [*congratulate the winner*] —**con·grat'u·la-to'ry** (-lə tōr'ē) *adj.*

con·grat'u·la'tion (-lā'shən) *n.* 1 a congratulating 2 [*pl.*] expressions of pleasure in another's good fortune, etc.

con·gre·gate (kän'grə gāt') *vt., vi.* -gat'ed, -gat'ing [*< L com-, together + grex, a flock*] to gather into a crowd; assemble

con·gre·ga'tion (-gā'shən) *n.* 1 a gathering; assemblage 2 an assembly of people for religious worship 3 its members

con·gre·ga'tion·al *adj.* 1 of or like a congregation 2 [C-] of a Protestant

denomination in which each member church is self-governing

con·gress (kän'gräs) *n.* [*< L com-, together + gradi, to walk*] 1 an association or society 2 an assembly or conference 3 a legislature, esp. of a republic 4 [C-] the legislature of the U.S.; the Senate and the House of Representatives —**con·gres·sion·al** (kən gresh'ə nəl) *adj.* —**con·gres'sion·al·ly** *adv.*

con'gress·man (-mən) *n., pl. -men* (-mən) [often C-] a member of Congress, esp. of the House of Representatives: also **con'gress·per'son** (-pər'sən) — **con'gress·wom'an**, *pl. -wom'en, fem.n.*

con·gru·ent (kän'grō ənt, kən grō'ənt) *adj.* [*< L congruere, agree*] 1 corresponding; harmonious 2 of geometric figures of the same shape and size — **con'gru·ence** *n.*

con·gru·ous (kän'grō əs) *adj.* 1 congruent 2 fitting; suitable; appropriate —**con·gru·i·ty** (kən grō'ə tē), *pl. -ties, n.* —**con'gru·ous·ly** *adv.* —**con'gru·ous·ness** *n.*

con·i·cal (kän'i kəl) *adj.* 1. of a cone 2 shaped like a cone Also **con'ic** —**con'i·cal·ly** *adv.*

con·i·fer (kän'ə fər, kō'nə-) *n.* [*L < conus, cone + ferre, to bear*] any of a class of cone-bearing trees and shrubs, mostly evergreens —**co·nif·er·ous** (kō nif'ər əs, kə-) *adj.*

conj *abbrev.* 1 conjugation 2 conjunction

con·jec·ture (kən jek'chər) *n.* [*< L com-, together + jacere, to throw*] 1 an inferring, theorizing, or predicting from incomplete evidence; guesswork 2 a guess —*vt., vi. -tured, -tur·ing* to guess —**con·jec'tur·al** *adj.* —**con·jec'tur·al·ly** *adv.*

con·join (kən join') *vt., vi.* [*< L com-, together + jungere, join*] to join together —**con·joint'** *adj.*

con·ju·gal (kän'jə gəl) *adj.* [*< L conjunx, spouse*] of marriage or the relation between husband and wife —**con'ju·gal·ly** *adv.*

con·ju·gate (kän'jə gət; also, and for *v.* always, -gāt') *adj.* [*< L com-, together + jugare, join*] joined together; coupled — *vt. -gated, -gat·ing* *Gram.* to give in order the inflectional forms of (a verb) —**con'ju·ga'tion** *n.*

con·junc·tion (kən junk'shən) *n.* [see CONJOIN] 1 a joining together; union; combination 2 coincidence 3 a word used to connect words, phrases, or clauses (Ex.: *and, but, or, if*) —**con·junc'tive** *adj.*

con·junc·ti·va (kän'jənk tī'və) *n., pl. -vas or -vae* (-vē) [see CONJOIN] the mucous membrane covering the inner eyelids and the front of the eyeball

con·junc·ti·vi·tis (kən junk'tə vīt'is) *n.* inflammation of the conjunctiva

con·junc·ture (kən junk'chər) *n.* [see CONJOIN] a combination of events creating a crisis

con·jure (kun'jər, kän'-; for *vt.* kən joor') *vi. -jured, -jur·ing* [*< L com-, together + jurare, swear*] 1 to summon a demon or spirit by magic 2 to practice magic —*vt.* to entreat solemnly —**conjure up**

to cause to appear as by magic —**con'ju·ra'tion** (-jə rā'shən) *n.* —**con'jur·er** or **con'ju·ror** *n.*

conk (känk, kōnk) *n., vt.* [*< CONCH*] [Slang] hit on the head —**conk out** [Slang] 1 to fail suddenly: said as of a motor 2 to fall asleep from fatigue

con man [Slang] a confidence man; swindler

con·nect (kə nekt') *vt.* [*< L com-, together + nectere, fasten*] 1 to join (two things together, or one thing *with* or *to* another) 2 to show or think of as related —*vi.* to join —**con·nec'tor** or **con·nec'ter** *n.*

Con·nect·i·cut (kə net'ə kət) New England state of the U.S.: 4,844 sq. mi.; pop. 3,287,000; cap. Hartford: abbrev. *CT*

con·nec·tion (kə nek'shən) *n.* 1 a connecting or being connected 2 a thing that connects 3 a relationship; association 4 *a*) a relative, as by marriage *b*) an influential associate, etc.: *usually used in pl.* 5 [often *pl.*] a transferring from one bus, plane, etc. to another

con·nec'tive (-tiv) *adj.* connecting —*n.* that which connects, esp. a connecting word, as a conjunction

connective tissue body tissue, as cartilage, serving to connect and support other tissues

con·nip·tion (kə nip'shən) *n.* [pseudo-L] [often *pl.*] [Inf.] a fit of anger, hysteria, etc.; tantrum: also **conniption fit**

con·nive (kə nīv') *vi. -nived', -niv'ing* [*< L conivere, to wink, connive*] 1 to pretend not to look (*at* crime, etc.), thus giving tacit consent 2 to cooperate secretly (*with* someone), esp. in wrongdoing; scheme —**con·niv'ance** *n.* —**con·niv'er** *n.*

con·nois·seur (kän'ə sər') *n.* [*< Fr < L cognoscere, know*] one who has expert knowledge and keen discrimination, esp. in the fine arts —**con'nois·seur'ship** *n.*

con·note (kə nōt') *vt. -not'ed, -not'ing* [*< L com-, together + notare, to mark*] to suggest or convey (associations, etc.) in addition to the explicit, or denoted, meaning —**con·no·ta·tion** (kän'ə tā'shən) *n.* —**con'no·ta'tive** or **con'no·ta'tion·al** *adj.*

con·nu·bi·al (kə nōō'bē əl) *adj.* [*< L com-, together + nubere, marry*] of marriage; conjugal —**con·nu'bi·al·ly** *adv.*

con·quer (kän'kər) *vt.* [*< L com-, intens. + quaerere, seek*] 1 to get control of as by winning a war 2 to overcome; defeat —*vi.* to win —**con'quer·a·ble** *adj.* —**con'quer·or** *n.*

con·quest (kän'kwest') *n.* 1 a conquering 2 something conquered 3 a winning of someone's affection

con·quis·ta·dor (kän kwis'tə dōr', -kēs'-) *n., pl. -dors' or con·quis'ta·do'res'* (-dōr'ēz') [Sp, conqueror] any of the 16th-cent. Spanish conquerors of Mexico, Peru, etc.

con·san·guin·e·ous (kän'sən gwīn'ē əs) *adj.* [see CON- & SANGUINE] having the same ancestor —**con'san·guin'i·ty** *n.*

con·science (kän'shəns) *n.* [**< L** *com-*, with + *scire*, know] a sense of right and wrong, with an urge to do right — **con'science-less** *adj.*

con·sci·en·tious (kän'shē en'shəs) *adj.* [**see** *prec.* & **-OUS**] 1 governed by one's conscience; scrupulous 2 painstaking — **con'sci·en'tious·ly** *adv.* — **con'sci·en'tious·ness** *n.*

conscientious objector one who for reasons of conscience refuses to take part in warfare

con·scious (kän'shəs) *adj.* [**< L**: *see* **CONSCIENCE**] 1 having an awareness (of or that) 2 able to feel and think; awake 3 aware of oneself as a thinking being 4 intentional [*conscious* humor] 5 known to oneself — **con'scious·ly** *adv.*

con'scious·ness *n.* 1 the state of being conscious; awareness 2 the totality of one's thoughts and feelings

con·script (kən skript'; for *n.* *kän'skript'*) *vt.* [**ult.** **< L** *com-*, with + *scribere*, write] to enroll for compulsory service in the armed forces; draft — *n.* a draftee — **con·scrip'tion** *n.*

con·se·crate (kän'si krät') *vt.* **-crat'ed**, **-crat'ing** [**< L** *com-*, together + *sacrare*, make holy] 1 to set apart as holy 2 to devote to sacred or serious use — **con'se·cra'tion** *n.*

con·sec·u·tive (kən sek'yōō tiv) *adj.* [**see** **CONSEQUENCE**] following in order, without interruption; successive — **con·sec'u·tive·ly** *adv.* — **con·sec'u·tive·ness** *n.*

con·sen·sus (kən sen'səs) *n.* [**see** *fol.*] 1 an opinion held by all or most 2 general agreement, esp. in opinion

con·sent (kən sent') *vi.* [**< L** *com-*, with + *sentire*, feel] to agree, permit, or assent — *n.* 1 permission; approval 2 agreement [*by common consent*] — **con·sen'su·al** (*-sen'shōō əl*) *adj.*

con·se·quence (kän'si kwens', -kwəns) *n.* [**< L** *com-*, with + *sequi*, follow] 1 a result; effect 2 importance — **take the consequences** to accept the results of one's actions

con'se·quent' (-kwent', -kwənt) *adj.* following as a result; resulting — **con'se·quent'ly** *adv.*

con'se·quen'tial (-kwen'shəl) *adj.* 1 consequent 2 important

con·ser·va·tion (kän'sər vā'shən) *n.* 1 a conserving; preservation 2 the official care or management of natural resources — **con'ser·va'tion·ist** *n.*

con·serv·a·tive (kən sər'və tiv) *adj.* 1 tending to conserve 2 tending to preserve established institutions, etc.; opposed to change 3 moderate; cautious — *n.* a conservative person — **con·serv'a·tism'** *n.* — **con·serv'a·tive·ly** *adv.*

con·serv'a·to'ry (-tôr'ē) *n., pl.* **-ries** 1 a greenhouse 2 a music school

con·serve (kən sər'v'; for *n.*, usually *kän'sər'v'*) *vt.* **-served'**, **-serv'ing** [**< L** *com-*, with + *servare*, keep] to keep from being damaged, lost, or wasted; save — *n.* [*often pl.*] a jam made of two or more fruits

con·sid·er (kən sid'ər) *vt.* [**< L** *consider-*

are, observe] 1 to think about in order to understand or decide 2 to keep in mind 3 to be thoughtful of (others) 4 to regard as

con·sid'er·a·ble *adj.* 1 worth considering; important 2 much or large — **con·sid'er·a·bly** *adv.*

con·sid'er·ate (-it) *adj.* having regard for others and their feelings — **con·sid'er·ate·ly** *adv.* — **con·sid'er·ate·ness** *n.*

con·sid'er·a'tion (-ā'shən) *n.* 1 the act of considering; deliberation 2 thoughtful regard for others 3 something considered in making a decision 4 a recompense; fee 5 something given, as to make a binding contract — **take into consideration** to keep in mind — **under consideration** being thought over or discussed

con·sid'ered *adj.* arrived at after careful thought

con·sid'er·ing *prep.* in view of; taking into account

con·sign (kən sīn') *vt.* [**< L** *consignare*, to seal] 1 to hand over; deliver 2 to entrust 3 to assign to an inferior place 4 to send (goods to be sold)

con·sign'ment *n.* 1 a consigning or being consigned 2 a shipment of goods sent to a dealer for sale — **on consign'ment** with payment due after sale of the consignment

con·sist (kən sist') *vi.* [**< L** *com-*, together + *sistere*, to stand] 1 to be formed or composed (of) 2 to be contained or inherent (*in*)

con·sis'ten·cy (-sis'tən sē) *n., pl.* **-cies** 1 firmness or thickness, as of a liquid 2 agreement; harmony 3 conformity with previous practice

con·sis'tent (-tənt) *adj.* 1 in agreement or harmony; compatible 2 holding to the same principles or practice — **con·sis'tent·ly** *adv.*

con·sis'to·ry (-tə rē) *n., pl.* **-ries** [**see** **CONSIST**] 1 a church council or court 2 its session

con·so·la·tion (kän'sə lā'shən) *n.* 1 comfort; solace 2 one that consoles

con·sole¹ (kən sōl') *vt.* **-soled'**, **-sol'ing** [**< L** *com-*, with + *solari*, to comfort, solace] to make feel less sad or disappointed; comfort — **con·sol'a·ble** *adj.* — **con·sol'ing·ly** *adv.*

con·sole² (kän'sōl') *n.* [**Fr**] 1 the desklike frame containing the keys, stops, etc. of an organ 2 a radio, television, or phonograph cabinet designed to stand on the floor 3 a control panel for operating aircraft, computers, electronic systems, etc. 4 a raised portion between automobile bucket seats

con·sol·i·date (kən sāl'ə dāt') *vt., vi.* **-dated'**, **-dat'ing** [**< L** *com-*, together + *solidus*, solid] 1 to combine into a single whole; unite 2 to make or become strong or stable [*to consolidate one's power*] — **con·sol'i·da'tion** *n.* — **con·sol'i·da'tor** *n.*

con·som·mé (kän'sə mē) *n.* [**Fr**] a clear, strained meat soup

con·so·nance (kän'sə nəns) *n.* [**< L** *com-*, with + *sonus*, sound] 1 harmony of parts or elements 2 musical har-

mony 3 repetition of consonants

con'so-nant (-nənt) *adj.* in harmony or accord —*n.* 1 a speech sound made by obstructing the air stream 2 a letter representing such a sound, as *p*, *t*, *l*, or *f*
con-sort (kän'sôrt'; for *v.* kən sôrt') *n.* [*<* *L com-*, with + *sors*, a share] a wife or husband, esp. of a reigning king or queen —*vt.*, *vi.* to associate

con-sor-ti-um (kən sôrt'ē əm, -sôr'shē əm) *n.*, *pl.* -*ti-a* (-ə) [see *prec.*] an international alliance, as of business firms or banks

con-spec-tus (kən spek'təs) *n.* [*L:* see *fol.*] 1 a general view 2 a summary; digest

con-spic-u-ous (kən spik'yō əs) *adj.* [*<* *L com-*, intens. + *specere*, see] 1 easy to see 2 outstanding; striking —**con-spic'u-ous-ly** *adv.* —**con-spic'u-ous-ness** *n.*

con-spir-a-cy (kən spir'ə sē) *n.*, *pl.* -*cies* 1 a conspiring 2 an unlawful plot 3 a conspiring group

con-spire (kən spīr') *vi.* -*spired'*, -*spir'ing* [*<* *L com-*, together + *spirare*, breathe] 1 to plan together secretly, esp. to commit a crime 2 to work together for any purpose or effect —**con-spir'a-tor** (-spir'ət ər) *n.* —**con-spira-to'ri-al** (-spir'ə tōr'ē əl) *adj.*

con-sta-ble (kän'stə bəl) *n.* [*<* *LL comes stabuli*, lit., count of the stable] 1 a peace officer in a small town 2 [Chiefly Brit.] a police officer

con-stab-u-lar-y (kən stab'yə ler'ē) *n.*, *pl.* -*ies* 1 constables, collectively 2 militarized police

con-stant (kän'stənt) *adj.* [*<* *L com-*, together + *stare*, to stand] 1 not changing; faithful, regular, stable, etc. 2 continual; persistent —*n.* anything that does not change or vary —**con'stan-cy** *n.* —**con'stant-ly** *adv.*

Con-stantine I (kän'stən.tēn', -tīn') A.D. 280?-337; first Christian emperor of Rome (306-337)

Con-stanti-no-ple (kän'stan tə nō'pəl) *former name* (A.D. 330-1930) for ISTANBUL

con-stel-la-tion (kän'stə lā'shən) *n.* [*<* *L com-*, with + *stella*, star] 1 a visible grouping of stars in the sky, usually named for some object, animal, etc. suggested by its outline 2 any brilliant group or gathering

con-ster-na-tion (kän'stər nā'shən) *n.* [*<* *L consternare*, terrify] great fear or shock

con-sti-pate (kän'stə pāt') *vt.* -*pat'ed*, -*pat'ing* [*<* *L com-*, together + *stipare*, cram] to cause constipation in

con'sti-pa'tion (-pā'shən) *n.* infrequent and difficult movement of the bowels

con-stit-u-en-cy (kən stich'ō ən sē) *n.*, *pl.* -*cies* the voters in a district

con-stit'u-ent (-ənt) *adj.* [see *fol.*] 1 necessary to the whole; component [a constituent part] 2 that elects —*n.* 1 a voter in a district 2 a component

con-sti-tute (kän'stə tōt') *vt.* -*tut'ed*, -*tut'ing* [*<* *L com-*, together + *statuere*, to set] 1 to establish (a law, government, etc.) 2 to set up (an assembly, etc.) in a legal form 3 to appoint 4 to

make up; form —**con'sti-tu'tive** *adj.*

con'sti-tu'tion (-tōō'shən) *n.* 1 a constituting 2 structure; organization 3 *a)* the system of basic laws and principles of a government, society, etc. *b)* a document stating these laws and principles *c)* [C-] such a document of the U.S.

con'sti-tu'tion-al (-shə nəl) *adj.* 1 of or in one's constitution or structure; basic 2 of or in accordance with the constitution of a government, society, etc. —*n.* a walk taken for one's health —**con'sti-tu'tion-al'i-ty** (-shə nal'ə tē) *n.* —**con'sti-tu'tion-al-ly** *adv.*

con-strain (kən strān') *vt.* [*<* *L com-*, together + *stringere*, draw tight] 1 to confine 2 to restrain 3 to compel

con-straint' (-strānt') *n.* 1 confinement or restriction 2 force; compulsion 3 forced, unnatural manner 4 something that constrains

con-strict (kən strikt') *vt.* [see *CON-STRAIN*] to make smaller or narrower by squeezing, etc. —**con-stric'tion** *n.*

con-stric'tor (-strikt'tər) *n.* a snake that kills its prey by squeezing

con-struct (kən strukt'; for *n.* kän'strukt') *vt.* [*<* *L com-*, together + *struere*, pile up] to build, devise, etc. —*n.* 1 something put together systematically 2 a concept or theory —**con-struc'tor** *n.*

con-struc'tion (-struk'shən) *n.* 1 a constructing or manner of being constructed 2 a structure 3 an interpretation, as of a statement 4 the arrangement of words in a sentence

construction paper sturdy, colored paper for children's art projects, etc.

con-struc'tive *adj.* leading to improvement; positive

con-strue (kən strōō') *vt.*, *vi.* -*strued'*, -*stru'ing* [see *CONSTRUCT*] 1 to analyze the construction of (a sentence) 2 to explain; interpret

con-sul (kän'səl) *n.* [*<* *L consulere*, to deliberate] 1 a chief magistrate of ancient Rome 2 a government official appointed to live in a foreign city and look after his or her country's citizens and business there —**con'sul-ar** (-ər) *adj.*

con'sul-ate (-it) *n.* 1 the position, powers, etc. of a consul 2 the office or residence of a consul

con-sult (kən sult') *vi.* [*<* *L consulere*, consider] to talk things over; confer —*vt.* 1 to seek advice or information from 2 to consider —**con-sul-ta-tion** (kän'səl tā'shən) *n.*

con-sult'ant *n.* an expert who gives professional or technical advice —**con-sult'an-cy**, *pl.* -*cies*, *n.*

con-sume' (-sōōm') *vt.* -*sumed'*, -*sum'ing* [*<* *L com-*, together + *sumere*, to take] 1 to destroy, as by fire 2 to use up or waste (time, money, etc.) 3 to eat or drink up; devour 4 to engross

con-sum'er *n.* one that consumes; specif., one who buys goods or services for personal needs only rather than to produce other goods

con-sum'er-ism' *n.* a movement for protecting the consumer against defective

products, misleading business practices, etc.

con·sum·mate (kän'sə mit, kən sum'it; for *v.* kən'sə māt') *adj.* [*< L com-, together + summa, a sum*] perfect; supreme —*vt.* -mat'ed, -mat'ing 1 to complete 2 to complete (a marriage) by sexual intercourse —**con'sum·mate·ly** *adv.* —**con·sum·ma·tion** (kän'sə mā'shən) *n.*

con·sump·tion (kən sump'shən) *n.* 1 a consuming or being consumed 2 the using up of goods or services 3 the amount consumed 4 [Old-fashioned] tuberculosis of the lungs

cont *abbrev.* continued

con·tact (kän'takt') *n.* [*< L com-, together + tangere, to touch*] 1 a touching or meeting 2 the state of being in association (*with*) 3 a connection 4 an influential acquaintance 5 *short for* CONTACT LENS —*vt.* 1 to come into contact with 2 to get in touch with —*vi.* to come into contact

contact lens a tiny, thin correctional lens worn directly over the cornea of the eye

con·ta·gion (kən tā'jən) *n.* [*see* CONTACT] 1 the spreading of disease by contact 2 a contagious disease 3 the spreading of an emotion, idea, etc.

con·ta'gious (-jəs) *adj.* 1 spread by contact: said of diseases 2 carrying the causative agent of a contagious disease 3 spreading from person to person —**con·ta'gious·ness** *n.*

con·tain (kən tān') *vt.* [*< L com-, together + tenere, to hold*] 1 to have in it; hold 2 to have the capacity for holding 3 to hold back or restrain within fixed limits —**con·tain·ment** *n.*

con·tain'er *n.* a thing for containing something; box, can, etc.

con·tain'er·ize *vt.* -ized', -iz'ing to pack (cargo) into huge, standardized containers for shipment

con·tam·i·nant (kən tam'ə nənt) *n.* a contaminating substance

con·tam'i·nate (-nāt') *vt.* -nat'ed, -nat'ing [*< L com-, together + tangere, to touch*] to make impure, corrupt, etc. by contact; pollute; taint —**con·tam'i·na'tion** *n.*

contd *abbrev.* continued

con·tem·plate (kän'təm plāt') *vt.* -plat'ed, -plat'ing [*< L contemplari, observe*] 1 to look at or think about intently 2 to expect or intend —*vi.* to muse —**con'tem·pla'tion** (-plā'shən) *n.* —**con·tem·pla·tive** (kən tem'plə tiv, kən'təm plāt'iv) *adj.*

con·tem·po·ra·ne·ous (kən tem'pə rā'nē əs) *adj.* [*see* fol.] happening in the same period —**con·tem'po·ra·ne'i·ty** (-rā nē'ə tē; -nā'-) *n.* —**con·tem'po·ra·ne·ous·ly** *adv.*

con·tem'po·rar'y (-rer'ē) *adj.* [*< L com-, with + tempus, time*] 1 living or happening in the same period 2 of about the same age 3 of the present time; modern —*n., pl.* -ies one living in the same period as another or others

con·tempt (kən tempt') *n.* [*< L com-,*

intens. + temnere, to scorn] 1 the feeling one has toward somebody or something one considers low, worthless, etc. 2 the condition of being despised 3 a showing disrespect for the dignity of a court (or legislature)

con·tempt'i·ble *adj.* deserving of contempt or scorn; despicable —**con·tempt'i·bly** *adv.*

con·temp·tu·ous (kən temp'chō əs) *adj.* full of contempt; scornful —**con·temp'tu·ous·ly** *adv.* —**con·temp'tu·ous·ness** *n.*

con·tend (kən tend') *vi.* [*< L com-, together + tendere, to stretch*] 1 to fight or argue 2 to compete —*vt.* to assert —**con·tend'er** *n.*

con·tent¹ (kən tent') *adj.* [*see* CONTAIN] happy with one's lot; satisfied —*vt.* to satisfy —*n.* contentment

con·tent² (kän'tent') *n.* [*see* CONTAIN] 1 [*usually pl.*] a) what is in a container b) what is dealt with in a book, speech, etc. 2 substance or meaning 3 amount contained

con·tent'ed *adj.* satisfied —**con·tent'ed·ly** *adv.* —**con·tent'ed·ness** *n.*

con·ten·tion (kən ten'shən) *n.* [*see* CONTEND] 1 strife, dispute, etc. 2 a point argued for —*in* (or *out of*) contention having a (or no) chance to win —**con·ten'tious** *adj.* —**con·ten'tious·ly** *adv.* —**con·ten'tious·ness** *n.*

con·tent'ment *n.* the state or fact of being contented

con·ter·mi·nous (kən tar'mə nəs) *adj.* [*< L com-, together + terminus, an end*] 1 having a common boundary 2 contained within the same boundaries —**con·ter'mi·nous·ly** *adv.*

con·test (kən test'; for *n.* kən'test') *vt.* [*< L com-, together + testis, a witness*] 1 to dispute (a point, etc.) 2 to fight for (a position, etc.) —*vi.* to struggle (*with* or *against*) —*n.* 1 a fight; struggle 2 a competitive game, race, etc. —**con·test'a·ble** *adj.*

con·test'ant *n.* [*Fr*] a competitor in a game, etc.

con·text (kän'tekst') *n.* [*< L com-, together + texere, to weave*] 1 the parts just before and after a passage, that determine its meaning 2 the whole background or environment, as of an event —**con·tex·tu·al** (kən teks'chō əl) *adj.*

con·tex·tu·al·ize (kən teks'chō əl iz') *vt.* -ized', -iz'ing to put in a context, as for analysis

con·tig·u·ous (kən tig'yō əs) *adj.* [*see* CONTACT] 1 in contact; touching 2 near or next —**con·ti·gu·i·ty** (kän'tə gyō'ə tē) *n.*

con·ti·nence (kän't'n əns) *n.* [*see* CONTAIN] self-restraint; specif., a refraining from all sexual activity

con'ti·nent (-ənt) *adj.* [*see* CONTAIN] characterized by continence —*n.* any of the main large land areas of the earth

con'ti·nen'tal (-ent'l) *adj.* 1 of a continent 2 [*sometimes C-*] European 3 [*C-*] of the American colonies at the time of the American Revolution

continental breakfast a light breakfast, as of rolls and coffee

continental drift the theory that continents slowly shift position

continental shelf submerged land sloping out gradually from the edge of a continent

con·tin·gen·cy (kən tin'jən sē) *n.*, *pl.* -cies 1 dependence on chance 2 a possible or chance event

con·tin'gent *adj.* [[see CONTACT] 1 possible 2 accidental 3 dependent (*on* or *upon* an uncertainty) —*n.* 1 a quota, as of troops 2 a part of a larger group

con·tin·u·al (kən tin'yoo əl) *adj.* 1 repeated often 2 continuous —**con·tin'u·al·ly** *adv.*

con·tin'u·ance *n.* 1 a continuing 2 duration 3 *Law* postponement or adjournment

con·tin'u·a'tion (-ā'shən) *n.* 1 a continuing 2 a beginning again; resumption 3 a part added; sequel

con·tin·ue (kən tin'yoo) *vi.* -ued, -u·ing [[< *L* *continua*re, join] 1 to last; endure 2 to go on in a specified course of action or condition 3 to extend 4 to stay 5 to go on again after an interruption —*vt.* 1 to go on with 2 to extend 3 to cause to remain, as in office 4 *Law* to postpone

con·ti·nu·i·ty (kən'tə nōō'ə tē, -nyōō'-) *n.*, *pl.* -ties [[O*Fr* < *L* *continuitas*] 1 a continuous state or quality 2 an unbroken, coherent whole 3 the script for a film, radio or TV program, etc.

con·tin·u·ous (kən tin'yoo əs) *adj.* going on without interruption; unbroken —**con·tin'u·ous·ly** *adv.*

con·tin'u·um (-yoo əm) *n.*, *pl.* -u·a (-yoo ə) or -u·ums [[*L*] a continuous whole, quantity, or series

con·tort (kən tōrt') *vt.*, *vi.* [[< *L* *com-*, together + *torquere*, to twist] to twist or wrench out of shape; distort —**con·tor'tion** *n.*

con·tor'tion·ist *n.* one who can contort his or her body into unnatural positions

con·tour (kən'toor') *n.* [[*Fr* < *L* *com-*, intens. + *tornare*, to turn] the outline of a figure, land, etc. —*vt.* to shape to the contour of something —*adj.* conforming to the shape or contour of something

con·tra (kən'trə) *prep.* against

contra- [[< *L* *contra*] *prefix* against, opposite, opposed to

con·tra·band (kən'trə band') *n.* [[< *Sp* < *It*] smuggled goods —*adj.* illegal to import or export

con·tra·cep·tion (kən'trə sep'shən) *n.* [[*CONTRA-* + (*CON*)CEPTION] prevention of the fertilization of an ovum, as by special devices or drugs —**con'tra·cep'tive** *adj.*, *n.*

con·tract (kən'trakt' *for n.* & usually *for vt.* 1 & *vi.* 1; kən trakt' *for v.* generally) *n.* [[< *L* *com-*, together + *trahere*, draw] an agreement between two or more people, esp. a written one enforceable by law —*vt.* 1 to undertake by contract 2 to get or incur (a disease, debt, etc.) 3 to reduce in size; shrink —*vi.* 1 to make a contract 2 to become smaller

con·trac·tile (kən trak'til) *adj.* having the power of contracting

con·trac·tion (kən trak'shən) *n.* 1 a

contracting or being contracted 2 the shortening of a muscle of the uterus during labor 3 the shortened form of a word or phrase (Ex.: *aren't* for *are not*)

con·trac·tor (kən'trak'tər) *n.* a builder, etc. who contracts to do work or supply materials

con·trac·tu·al (kən trak'chō əl) *adj.* of, or having the nature of, a contract —**con·trac'tu·al·ly** *adv.*

con·tra·dict (kən'trə dikt') *vt.* [[< *L* *contra-*, against + *dicere*, speak] 1 to assert the opposite of (something said) 2 to deny the statement of (someone) 3 to be contrary to —**con'tra·dic'tion** *n.* —**con'tra·dic'to·ry** *adj.*

con'tra·dis·tinc'tion (-dis tɪŋk'shən) *n.* distinction by contrast

con·trail (kən'trāl') *n.* [[*CON*(DENSATION) + *TRAIL*] a white trail of water vapor in an aircraft's wake

con·tra·in·di·cate (kən'trə in'di kāt') *vt.* -cat'ed, -cat'ing to make (as an indicated medical treatment) inadvisable

con·tral·to (kən tral'tō) *n.*, *pl.* -tos [[*It*: see *CONTRA-* & *ALTO*] 1 the range of the lowest female voice; alto 2 a voice or singer with such a range

con·trap·tion (kən trap'shən) *n.* [[< ?] a contrivance or gadget

con·tra·pun·tal (kən'trə punt'l) *adj.* [[< *It* *contrappunto*, counterpoint] of or characterized by counterpoint

con·trar·i·an (kən trer'ē ən) *n.*, *adj.* (one) characterized by thought or action that is contrary to accepted opinion

con·trar·i·wise (kən'trer'ē wīz') *adv.* 1 on the contrary 2 in the opposite way, order, etc.

con·trar·y (kən'trer'ē; *for adj.* 4, often kən trer'ē) *adj.* [[< *L* *contra*, against] 1 opposed 2 opposite in nature, order, etc.; altogether different 3 unfavorable 4 always resisting or disagreeing —*n.*, *pl.* -ies the opposite —**on the contrary** as opposed to what has been said —**to the contrary** to the opposite effect —**con'tra·ri'e·ty** (-trə rī'ə tē) *n.* —**con'trar·i·ly** *adv.* —**con'trar·i·ness** *n.*

con·trast (kən trast'; *for n.* kən'trast') *vt.* [[< *L* *contra*, against + *stare*, to stand] to compare so as to point out the differences —*vi.* to show differences when compared —*n.* 1 a contrasting or being contrasted 2 a striking difference between things being compared 3 a person or thing showing differences when compared with another

con·tra·vene (kən'trə vən') *vt.* -ven'ed, -ven'ing [[< *L* *contra*, against + *venire*, come] 1 to go against; violate 2 to contradict —**con'tra·ven'tion** (-ven'shən) *n.*

con·tre·temps (kən'trə tən') *n.*, *pl.* -temps' (-tən') [[*Fr*] a confusing, embarrassing, or awkward occurrence

con·trib·ute (kən trib'yoot) *vt.*, *vi.* -ut'ed, -ut'ing [[< *L*: see *CON-* & *TRIBUTE*] 1 to give jointly with others 2 to write (an article, etc.) as for a magazine 3 to furnish (ideas, etc.) —**contribute** to to be partly responsible for (a result) —**con·trib'u·tor** *n.* —**con·trib'u·to·ry** *adj.*

con·tri·bu·tion (kən'trə byō'shən) *n.* 1

a contributing 2 something contributed, as money

con·trite (kən trīt') *adj.* [*< L com-, together + terere, to-rub*] having or showing deep sorrow for having done wrong; repentant —**con·trite'ly** *adv.* —**con·trite'ness** *n.* —**con·tri'tion** (-trish'ən) *n.*

con·triv·ance (kən trī'vəns) *n.* 1 the act, way, or power of contriving 2 something contrived; device, invention, etc.

con·trive (kən trīv') *vt.* -trived', -triv'ing [*ult. < VL contropare, compare*] 1 to think up; devise 2 to make inventively 3 to bring about; manage —**con·triv'er** *n.*

con·trol (kən trōl') *vt.* -trolled', -trol'ling [*< ML contrarotulus, a register*] 1 to regulate 2 to verify (an experiment) by comparison 3 to exercise authority over; direct 4 to restrain —*n.* 1 power to direct or regulate 2 a means of controlling; check 3 an apparatus to regulate a mechanism: *usually used in pl.* —**con·trol'la·ble** *adj.*

control group the group, in an experiment, that is not given the drug, etc. being tested

controlled substance a drug whose sale is regulated by law

con·trol'ler *n.* 1 the person in charge of auditing accounts, as in a business 2 a person or device that controls

control tower an airport tower from which air traffic is directed

con·tro·ver·sial (kən'trə vər'shəl) *adj.* subject to or stirring up controversy

con'tro·ver'sy (-sē) *n., pl. -sies* [*< L contra, against + vertere, to turn*] a conflict of opinion; dispute

con·tro·vert (kən'trə vɜrt', kən'trə vɜrt') *vt.* 1 to argue against; dispute 2 to argue about; debate —**con'tro·vert'i·ble** *adj.*

con·tu·ma·cy (kən'tyōō mə sē) *n., pl. -cies* [*< L com-, intens. + tumere, swell up*] stubborn resistance to authority —**con'tu·ma'cious** (-mā'shəs) *adj.*

con·tu·me·ly (kən'tōō mə lē, -tōōm lē; kən tōō'mə lē) *n., pl. -lies* [*< L contumelia, abuse*] 1 humiliating treatment 2 a scornful insult —**con'tu·me'li·ous** (-mē'lē əs) *adj.*

con·tu·sion (kən tyōō'zhən, -tōō'-) *n.* [*< L com-, intens. + tundere, to beat*] a bruise

co·nun·drum (kə nun'drəm) *n.* [*pseudo-L*] 1 a riddle whose answer contains a pun 2 any puzzling problem

con·ur·ba·tion (kən'ər bā'shən) *n.* [*< CON- + L urbs, city + -ATION*] a vast urban area around and including a large city

con·va·lesce (kən'və les') *vi.* -lesced', -lesc'ing [*< L com-, intens. + valere, be strong*] to regain strength and health —**con'va·les'cence** *n.* —**con'va·les'cent** *adj., n.*

con·vec·tion (kən vek'shən) *n.* [*< L com-, together + vehere, carry*] 1 a

transmitting 2 a) movement of parts of a fluid within the fluid because of differences in heat, etc. b) heat transference by such movement —**con·vec'tion·al** *adj.* —**con·vec'tive** *adj.*

con·vene (kən vən') *vi., vt.* -vened', -ven'ing [*< L com-, together + venire, come*] to assemble for a meeting —**con·ven'er** *n.*

con·ven·ience (kən vən'yəns) *n.* [*see prec.*] 1 the quality of being convenient 2 comfort 3 anything that adds to one's comfort or saves work —**at someone's convenience** at a time or place suitable to someone

con·ven'ient (-yənt) *adj.* easy to do, use, or get to; handy —**con·ven'ient·ly** *adv.*

con·vent (kən'vənt, -vent') *n.* [*see CON·VENE*] 1 the residence of a religious community, esp. of women 2 the community itself

con·ven·ti·cle (kən ven'ti kəl) *n.* [*see CON·VENE*] a religious assembly held illegally and secretly

con·ven·tion (kən ven'shən) *n.* [*see CON·VENE*] 1 a) an assembly, often periodical, of members or delegates b) such members or delegates 2 an agreement, as between nations 3 a customary practice 4 customary practices collectively —**con·ven'tion·eer** *n.*

con·ven'tion·al *adj.* 1 having to do with a convention 2 sanctioned by or following custom or usage; customary 3 formal 4 nonnuclear [*conventional weapons*] —**con·ven'tion·al'i·ty** (-nal'ə tē) *n.* —**con·ven'tion·al·ly** *adv.*

con·ven'tion·al·ize *vt.* -ized', -iz'ing to make conventional

con·verge (kən vɜrj') *vi.* -verged', -verg'ing [*< L com-, together + vergere, to bend*] to come together at a point —**con·ver'gence** *n.* —**con·ver'gent** *adj.*

con·ver·sant (kən vɜr'sənt, kən'vər-) *adj.* familiar or acquainted (*with*)

con·ver·sa·tion (kən'vər sā'shən) *n.* a conversing; informal talk —**con'ver·sa'tion·al** *adj.* —**con'ver·sa'tion·al·ist** *n.* —**con'ver·sa'tion·al·ly** *adv.*

conversation piece something, as an unusual article of furniture, that invites comment

con·verse¹ (kən vɜrs'; *for n. kən'vɜrs'*) *vi.* -versed', -vers'ing [*< L conversari, live with*] to hold a conversation; talk —*n.* conversation

con·verse² (kən'vɜrs'; *also, for adj., kən vɜrs'*) *adj.* [*see CON·VERT*] reversed in position, order, etc.; opposite; contrary —*n.* a thing related in a converse way; the opposite —**con·verse'ly** *adv.*

con·ver·sion (-kən vɜr'zhən) *n.* a converting or being converted

con·vert (kən vɜrt'; *for n. kən'vɜrt'*) *vt.* [*< L com-, together + vertere, to turn*] 1 to change; transform 2 to change from one religion, doctrine, etc. to another 3 to exchange for something equal in value —*vi.* to be converted —*n.* a person converted, as to a religion —**con·vert'er** *n.*

con·vert·i·ble (kən vɜrt'ə bəl) *adj.* that can be converted —*n.* an automobile with a folding or removable top

con·vex (kän veks', kän'veks') *adj.* [**< L** *com-*, together + *vehere*, bring] curving outward like the surface of a sphere — **con·vex'i·ty** *n.*



con·vey (kän vā') *vt.* [**< L** *com-*, together + *via*, way] 1 to take from one place to another; transport; carry 2 to transmit 3 *Law* to transfer (property, etc.) — **con·vey'a·ble** *adj.*

con·vey'ance *n.* 1 a conveying 2 a means of conveying; esp., a vehicle

con·vey'or (belt) a device, consisting of a continuous moving belt, for conveying things: also **con·vey'er** (belt)

con·vict (kän vikt'; *for n.* kän'vikt') *vt.* [see **CONVINCE**] to prove or find (a person) guilty — *n.* a convicted person serving a prison sentence

con·vic·tion (kän vik'shən) *n.* 1 a convicting or being convicted 2 a being convinced; strong belief

con·vince (kän vins') *vt.* -vined', -vinc'ing [**< L** *com-*, intens. + *vincere*, conquer] to persuade by argument or evidence; make feel sure — **con·vinc'ing** *adj.* — **con·vinc'ing·ly** *adv.*

con·viv'i·al (kän viv'ē əl) *adj.* [**< L** *com-*, together + *vivere*, to live] 1 festive 2 fond of eating, drinking, and good company; sociable — **con·viv'i·al'i·ty** (-al'ə tē) *n.*

con·vo·ca·tion (kän'vō kā'shən) *n.* 1 a convoking 2 an ecclesiastical or academic assembly

con·voke (kän vōk') *vt.* -voked', -vok'ing [**< L** *com-*, together + *vocare*, to call] to call together; convene

con·vo·lut·ed (kän'və lōō't'id) *adj.* 1 having convolutions; coiled 2 involved; complicated

con·vo·lu'tion (-lōō'shən) *n.* [**< L** *com-*, together + *volvere*, to roll] 1 a twisting, coiling, or winding together 2 a fold, twist, or coil

con·voy (kän'voi') *vt.* [see **CONVEY**] to escort in order to protect — *n.* 1 a conveying 2 a protecting escort 3 a group of ships, vehicles, etc. traveling together

con·vulse (kän vuls') *vt.* -vulsed', -vuls'ing [**< L** *com-*, together + *vellere*, to pluck] 1 to shake violently; agitate 2 to cause to shake with laughter, rage, etc. — **con·vul'sive** *adj.* — **con·vul'sive·ly** *adv.*

con·vul'sion (-vul'shən) *n.* 1 a violent, involuntary spasm of the muscles: *often used in pl.* 2 a fit of laughter 3 a violent disturbance

COO (kōō) *vi.* [echoic] to make the soft, murmuring sound of pigeons or doves — *n.* this sound

COO *abbrev.* chief operating officer

cook (kook) *n.* [**< L** *coquere*, to cook] one who prepares food — *vt.* to prepare (food) by boiling, baking, frying, etc. — *vi.* 1 to be a cook 2 to undergo cooking — **cook up** [*Inf.*] to devise; invent — **cook'er** *n.*

cook'book' *n.* a book containing recipes and other food-preparation information

cook'er·y *n.* [Chiefly Brit.] the art or practice of cooking

cook'ie *n.* [prob. **< Du** *koek*, cake] a small, sweet cake, usually flat and either crisp or chewy: also **cook'y**, *pl.* -ies

cook'out' *n.* a meal cooked and eaten outdoors

cook'top' *n.* a stove top, with burners, or such a unit installed as on a kitchen counter

cool (kōōl) *adj.* [OE *col*] 1 moderately cold 2 tending to reduce the effects of heat [*cool clothes*] 3 not excited; composed 4 showing dislike or indifference 5 calmly bold 6 [*Inf.*] without exaggeration [*a cool \$1,000*] 7 [*Slang*] very good — *n.* 1 a cool place, time, etc. [*the cool of the evening*] 2 [*Slang*] cool, dispassionate manner — *vt., vi.* to make or become cool or colder — **cool'ly** *adv.* — **cool'ness** *n.*

cool'ant *n.* a fluid or other substance for cooling engines, etc.

cool'er *n.* 1 a container or room for keeping things cool 2 a cold, refreshing drink 3 [*Slang*] jail: with *the*

Coo·lidge (kōō'lij), (John) Calvin 1872-1933; 30th president of the U.S. (1923-29)

coo·lie (kōō'lē) *n.* [Hindi *qulī*, servant] an unskilled native laborer, esp. formerly, in India, China, etc.

coon (kōōn) *n.* short for **RACCOON**

coon'skin' *n.* the skin of a raccoon, used as a fur

coop (kōōp) *n.* [**< L** *cupa*, cask] a small pen as for poultry — *vt.* to confine as in a coop: usually with *up*

co-op (kō'äp') *n.* [*Inf.*] a cooperative

coop·er (kōōp'ər) *n.* [see **COOP**] one whose work is making or repairing barrels and casks

co·op·er·ate or **co·op·er·ate** (kō äp'ər ät') *vi.* -at'ed, -at'ing [**< L** *co-*, with + *opus*, work] to act or work together with another or others — **co·op'er·a'tion** or **co·op'er·a'tion** *n.*

co·op'er·a·tive or **co·op'er·a·tive** (-ər ə tiv, -ər ät'iv) *adj.* 1 cooperating 2 owned collectively by members who share in its benefits — *n.* a cooperative store, etc.

co·opt (kō äpt', kō'äpt') *vt.* [**< L** *co-*, with + *optare*, choose] 1 to get (an opponent) to join one's side 2 to take over for one's own purposes

co·or·di·nate or **co·or·di·nate** (kō ôrd' 'n it; *for v.,* -ät') *adj.* [**< L** *co-*, with + *ordo*, order] 1 of the same order, importance, etc. [*coordinate clauses in a sentence*] 2 of coordination or coordinates — *n.* 1 a coordinate person or thing 2 [*pl.*] items of clothing, luggage, etc. that form a pleasing ensemble — *vt.* -nat'ed, -nat'ing 1 to make coordinate 2 to bring into proper order or relation; adjust — **co·or'di·na'tor** or **co·or'di·na'tor** *n.*

coordinating conjunction a conjunction connecting coordinate words, clauses, etc. (Ex.: *and, but, nor*)

co·or'di·na'tion or **co·or'di·na'tion** *n.*

1 a coordinating or being coordinated 2 harmonious action, as of muscles
coot (kōōt) *n.* [ME *cote*] 1 a ducklike water bird 2 [Inf.] an eccentric old man
coot·ie (kōōt'ē) *n.* [Slang] a louse
cop (kăp) *vt.* **copped**, **cop'ing** [prob. < L *capere*, take] [Slang] to seize, steal, etc. —*n.* [Slang] a policeman —**cop out** [Slang] 1 to renege 2 to give up; quit
co·part·ner (kō pärt'nər, kō'pärt'-) *n.* an associate
co·pay·ment (kō'pā'mənt) *n.* the part of a medical bill, often a fixed fee, not covered by insurance
cope¹ (kōp) *vi.* **coped**, **cop'ing** [< OFr *coper*, to strike] 1 to fight or contend (*with*) successfully 2 to deal with problems, etc.
cope² (kōp) *n.* [< LL *cappa*] 1 a large, capelike vestment worn by priests 2 any cover like this
Co·pen·hag·en (kō'pən hā'gən, -hā'-) capital of Denmark: pop. 626,000
Co·per·ni·cus (kō pər'ni kas), **Nic·o·la·us** (nik'ə lā'əs) 1473-1543; Pol. astronomer —**Co·per'ni·can** *adj.*
cop·i·er (kăp'ē ər) *n.* 1 one who copies 2 a duplicating machine
co·pi·lot (kō'pī'lət) *n.* the assistant pilot of an airplane
cop·ing (kō'pin) *n.* [< COPE²] the top layer of a masonry wall
co·pi·ous (kō'pē əs) *adj.* [< L *copia*, abundance] plentiful; abundant —**co'pi·ous·ly** *adv.* —**co'pi·ous·ness** *n.*
cop'·out' *n.* [Slang] a copping out, as by reneging or quitting
cop·per (kăp'ər) *n.* [< LL *cuprum*] 1 a reddish-brown, ductile, metallic chemical element 2 a reddish brown —*adj.* 1 of copper 2 reddish-brown —**cop'per·y** *adj.*
cop'per·head' *n.* a poisonous North American snake
co·pra (kā'prə, kō'-) *n.* [Port < Hindi *khoprā*] dried coconut meat, the source of coconut oil
copse (kăps) *n.* [< OFr *coper*, to strike] a thicket of small trees or shrubs: also **cop·pice** (kăp'is)
cop·ter (kăp'tər) *n.* short for HELICOPTER
cop·u·la (kăp'yōō lə) *n.*, *pl.* -las [L, a link] LINKING VERB —**cop'·u·la'tive** (-lāt'iv) *adj.*
cop·u·late (kăp'yōō lāt') *vi.* -lat'ed, -lat'ing [< L *co-*, together + *apere*, to join] to have sexual intercourse —**cop'·u·la'tion** *n.*
cop·y (kăp'ē) *n.*, *pl.* -ies [< L *copia*, plenty] 1 a thing made just like another; imitation or reproduction 2 any of a number of books, magazines, etc. having the same contents 3 matter to be typeset 4 the words of an advertisement —*vt.*, *vi.* **cop'ied**, **cop'y·ing** 1 to make a copy of 2 to imitate 3 [Inf.] to provide (with) a copy —**cop'y·ist** *n.*
cop'y·cat' *n.* an imitator: chiefly a child's term —*adj.* done in imitation [a copycat crime]
cop'y·right' *n.* the exclusive right to the

publication, sale, etc. of a literary or artistic work —*vt.* to protect (a book, etc.) by copyright

cop'y·writ'er *n.* a writer of copy, esp. for advertisements

co·quette (kō ket') *n.* [Fr] a girl or woman who flirts —**co·quet'tish** *adj.*

cor- *prefix* COM-: used before *r*

cor·al (kôr'əl) *n.* [< Gr *korallion*] 1 the hard skeleton secreted by certain marine polyps: reefs and atolls of coral occur in tropical seas 2 a piece of coral 3 a yellowish red —*adj.* of coral

coral snake a small, poisonous snake marked with coral, yellow, and black bands

cor·bel (kôr'bəl) *n.* [< L *corvus*, raven] a piece of stone, wood, etc. projecting from a wall and supporting a cornice, arch, etc.

cord (kôrd) *n.* [< Gr *chordē*] 1 a thick string 2 a measure of wood cut for fuel (128 cubic feet) 3 a rib on the surface of a fabric 4 ribbed cloth 5 [*pl.*] corduroy trousers 6 *Anat.* any part like a cord 7 *Elec.* a slender cable

cord'age *n.* cords and ropes

cor·dial (kôr'jəl) *adj.* [< L *cor*, heart] warm; hearty; sincere —*n.* a liqueur —**cor'di·al'i·ty** (-jē al'ə tē) *n.* —**cor'dial·ly** *adv.*

cor·dil·le·ra (kôr'dil yer'ə, -də ler'ə) *n.* [Sp < L *chorda*, a cord] a system or chain of mountains

cord·ite (kôr'dīt') *n.* [< CORD: it is stringy] a smokeless explosive made of nitroglycerin, etc.

cord·less (kôrd'lis) *adj.* operated by batteries, as an electric shaver

cor·don (kôr'dən) *n.* [see CORD] a line or circle of police, troops, etc. guarding an area —*vt.* to encircle with a cordon

cor·do·van (kôr'də vən) *n.* [after *Córdoba*, Spain] a soft, colored leather

cor·du·roy (kôr'də roi') *n.* [prob. < CORD + obs. *duroy*, a coarse fabric] a heavy, ribbed cotton fabric

core (kôr) *n.* [prob. < L *cor*, heart] 1 the central part of an apple, pear, etc. 2 the central part of anything 3 the most important part —*vt.* **cored**, **cor'ing** to remove the core of

co·re·spond·ent (kō'ri spän'dənt) *n.* [CO- + RESPONDENT] *Law* a person charged with having committed adultery with the wife or husband from whom a divorce is being sought

co·ri·an·der (kôr'ē an'dər) *n.* [< Gr *koriandron*] an annual herb with strong-smelling, seedlike fruit used as a flavoring

cork (kôrk) *n.* [ult. < L *quercus*, oak] 1 the light, thick, elastic outer bark of an oak tree (**cork oak**) 2 a stopper made of cork, for a bottle, etc. 3 any stopper —*adj.* of cork —*vt.* to stop with a cork

cork'board' *n.* a bulletin board made of granulated cork

cork'screw' *n.* a spiral-shaped device for pulling corks out of bottles —*adj.* spiral —*vi.*, *vt.* to move in a spiral; twist

corm (kôrm) *n.* [< Gr *kormos*, a log] a fleshy, underground stem, as that of the gladiolus

cor·mo·rant (kôr'mə rənt) *n.* [**<** L *corvus*, raven + *marinus*, marine] a large, voracious sea bird

corn¹ (kôrn) *n.* [**OE**] 1 a small, hard seed, esp. of a cereal grass; kernel 2 *a*) an American cereal plant with kernels growing in rows along a woody husk-enclosed core (**corn**cob) *b*) the kernels 3 [Brit.] grain, esp. wheat 4 the leading cereal crop in a place 5 [Inf.] ideas, humor, etc. regarded as old-fashioned, trite, etc. —**vt.** to pickle (meat, etc.) in brine

corn² (kôrn) *n.* [**<** L *cornu*, horn] a hard, thick, painful growth of skin, esp. on a toe

corn'ball' *adj.* [**CORN**¹ (sense 5) + (**SCREW**)**BALL**] [Slang] corny

corn bread bread made with cornmeal

cor·ne·a (kôr'nē ə) *n.* [**<** L *cornu*, horn] the transparent outer coat of the eyeball —**cor'ne-al** *adj.*

cor·ner (kôr'nər) *n.* [**<** L *cornu*, horn] 1 the point or place where lines or surfaces join and form an angle 2 the angle formed 3 any of the angles formed at a street intersection 4 a remote, secluded place 5 a region; quarter 6 a position hard to escape from 7 a monopoly acquired on a stock or commodity so as to raise the price —**vt.** 1 to force into a CORNER (*n.* 6) 2 to get a monopoly on (a stock, etc.) —**vi.** to turn corners: said of a vehicle —**adj.** at, on, or for a corner —**cut corners** to cut down expenses, time, etc. —**cor'nered** *adj.*

cor'ner·back' *n.* *Football* either of two defensive backs positioned outside the linebackers

cor'ner·stone' *n.* 1 a stone laid at a corner of a building, esp. at a ceremony for the beginning of construction 2 the basic part; foundation

cor·net-(kôr net') *n.* [**<** L *cornu*, horn] a brass instrument similar to the trumpet but more compact

corn'flow'er *n.* an annual plant with tiny, white, pink, or blue flowers that form a round head

cor·nice (kôr'nis) *n.* [**<** Gr *korōnis*, wreath] 1 a horizontal molding projecting along the top of a wall, etc. 2 a decorative cover for a curtain rod

corn'meal' *n.* meal made from corn

corn'starch' *n.* a powdery starch made from corn, used in cooking

corn syrup a syrup made from cornstarch

cor·nu·co·pi·a (kôr'nə kō'pē ə) *n.* [**L** *cornu copiae*, horn of plenty] 1 a horn-shaped container overflowing with fruits, flowers, etc. 2 an abundance

corn·y (kôr'nē) *adj.* -i·er, -i·est [Inf.] trite, sentimental, etc.

co·rol·la (kə rōl'ə, -rāl'ə) *n.* [**<** L, dim. of *corona*, crown] the petals of a flower

cor·ol·lar·y (kôr'ə ler'ē) *n.*, *pl.* -ies [see prec.] 1 a proposition that follows from one already proved 2 a normal result

co·ro·na (kə rō'nə) *n.*, *pl.* -nas or -nae (-nē) [**L**] 1 the layer of ionized gas surrounding the sun 2 a ring of colored light seen around a luminous body, as

the sun or moon

cor·o·nar·y (kôr'ə ner'ē) *adj.* 1 of or like a crown 2 of the arteries supplying blood to the heart muscle —*n.*, *pl.* -ies a thrombosis in a coronary artery: in full **coronary thrombosis**

cor·o·na·tion (kôr'ə nā'shən) *n.* the crowning of a sovereign

cor·o·ner (kôr'ə nər) *n.* [**ME**, officer of the crown] a public officer who must determine the cause of any death not obviously due to natural causes

cor·o·net (kôr'ə net', kôr'ə net') *n.* [**<** OFr *corone*, crown] 1 a small crown worn by nobility 2 a band of jewels, flowers, etc. for the head

Corp *abbrev.* 1 Corporal 2 Corporation: also **corp**

cor·po·ral¹ (kôr'pə rəl, -prəl) *n.* [**<** L *caput*, head] the lowest-ranking non-commissioned officer, just below a sergeant

cor·po·ral² (kôr'pə rəl, -prəl) *adj.* [**<** L *corpus*, body] of the body; bodily

corporal punishment bodily punishment, as flogging

cor·po·rate (kôr'pə rit, -prit) *adj.* [**<** L *corpus*, body] 1 of, like, or being a corporation 2 shared; joint

cor·po·ra'tion (-pə rā'shən) *n.* a legal entity, usually a group of people, that has a charter granting it certain legal powers generally given to individuals, as to buy and sell property or to enter into contracts

cor·po·re·al (kôr pōr'ē əl) *adj.* [**<** L *corpus*, body] 1 of or for the body; physical 2 of a material nature; tangible

corps (kôr) *n.*, *pl.* **corps** (kôrz) [**<** L *corpus*, body] 1 a body of people associated under common direction 2 *Mil.* *a*) a specialized branch of the armed forces *b*) a tactical subdivision of an army

corpse (kôrps) *n.* [**var.** of prec.] a dead body, esp. of a person

cor·pu·lence (kôr'pyō ləns, -pyə-) *n.* [**<** L *corpus*, body] fatness; obesity —**cor'pu-lent** *adj.*

cor·pus (kôr'pəs) *n.*, *pl.* **cor'po·ra** (-pə rə) [**L**] 1 a body, esp. a dead one 2 a complete collection, as of laws

Cor·pus Chris·ti (kôr'pəs kris'tē) city in SE Texas: pop. 257,000

cor·pus·cle (kôr'pus'əl) *n.* [**<** L dim. of *corpus*, body] an unattached body cell, esp. a red or white blood cell —**cor·pus'cu-lar** (-kyō lər) *adj.*

corpus de·lic·ti (də lik'tī) [**ModL**, lit., body of the crime] 1 the facts constituting a crime 2 loosely, the body of a murder victim

cor·ral (kə ral') *n.* [**Sp** **<** L *curre*, to run] an enclosure for horses, cattle, etc.; pen —**vt.** -ralled', -ral'ling 1 to drive into or confine in a corral 2 to surround or capture

cor·rect (kə rekt') *vt.* [**<** L *com-*, together + *regere*, to rule] 1 to make right 2 to point out or mark the errors of 3 to scold or punish 4 to cure or remove (a fault, etc.) —**adj.** 1 conform-

ing to an established standard 2 true; accurate; right —**cor·rect'a·ble** *adj.* —**cor·rec'tive** *adj., n.* —**cor·rect'ly** *adv.* —**cor·rect'ness** *n.*

cor·rec'tion (-rek'shən) *n.* 1 a correcting or being corrected 2 a change that corrects a mistake 3 punishment to correct faults 4 *Finance* a temporary reversal in rising stock prices, etc. —**cor·rec'tion-al** *adj.*

cor·re·late (kôr'ə lāt') *vi., vt.* -lat'ed, -lat'ing [see COM- & RELATE] to be in or bring into mutual relation —**cor're·la'tion** *n.*

cor·rel-a·tive (kə rel'ə tiv) *adj.* 1 having a mutual relationship 2 *Gram.* expressing mutual relation and used in pairs, as the conjunctions *neither* and *nor* —*n.* a correlative word, etc.

cor·re·spond (kôr'ə spänd') *vi.* [< L *com-*, together + *respondere*, respond] 1 to be in agreement (*with* something) 2 to be similar or equal (*to* something) 3 to communicate by letters —**cor're·spond'ing·ly** *adv.*

cor're·spond'ence *n.* 1 agreement; conformity 2 similarity 3 a) communication by letters b) the letters

cor're·spond'ent *adj.* corresponding; agreeing; analogous —*n.* 1 a thing that corresponds 2 one who exchanges letters with another 3 one hired by a newspaper, radio network, etc. to furnish news, etc. from a distant place

cor·ri·dor (kôr'ə dər, -dôr') *n.* [Fr < L *currere*, to run] a long hall

cor·rob·o·rate (kə rāb'ə rāt') *vt.* -rat'ed, -rat'ing [< L *com-*, intens. + *robur*, strength] to confirm; support —**cor·rob'o·ra'tion** *n.* —**cor·rob'o·ra'tive** (-ə rāt'iv, -ər ə tiv) *adj.* —**cor·rob'o·ra'tor** *n.*

cor·rode (kə rōd') *vt., vi.* -rod'ed, -rod'ing [< L *com-*, intens. + *rodere*, gnaw] to eat into or wear away gradually, as by rusting or the action of chemicals —**cor·ro'sion** (-rō'zhən) *n.* —**cor·ro'sive** (-rō'siv) *adj., n.* —**cor·ro'sive·ly** *adv.*

cor·ru·gate (kôr'ə gāt') *vt., vi.* -gat'ed, -gat'ing [< L *com-*, intens. + *rugare*, to wrinkle] to shape into parallel grooves and ridges —**cor'ru·ga'tion** *n.*

cor·rupt (kə rupt') *adj.* [< L *com-*, together + *rumpere*, to break] 1 evil; depraved 2 taking bribes 3 containing alterations, errors, etc. —*vt., vi.* to make or become corrupt —**cor·rupt'i·ble** *adj.* —**cor·rup'tion** *n.* —**cor·rupt'ly** *adv.*

cor·sage (kôr sāzh') *n.* [see CORPS & -AGE] a small bouquet for a woman to wear, as at the waist or shoulder

cor·sair (kôr'ser') *n.* [< Fr < L *cursus*, course] a pirate or a pirate ship

cor·set (kôr'sit) *n.* [see CORPS] a closefitting undergarment worn, chiefly by women, to give support to or shape the body

cor·tege or **cor·tège** (kôr tezh', -tāzh') *n.* [Fr < L *cohors*] 1 a retinue 2 a ceremonial procession

cor·tex (kôr'teks') *n., pl.* -ti·ces' (-tə sēz') [L, bark of a tree] 1 the outer part of an internal organ; esp., the outer layer

of gray matter over most of the brain 2 an outer layer of plant tissue —**cor'ti·cal** (-ti kəl) *adj.*

cor·ti·sone (kôrt'ə sôn', -zôn') *n.* [so named by E. C. Kendall (1886-1972), U.S. physician] a hormone used to treat adrenal insufficiency, inflammatory diseases, etc.

co·run·dum (kə run'dəm) *n.* [< Sans *kuruvinda*, ruby] a very hard mineral used for grinding and polishing

cor·us·cate (kôr'ə skāt') *vi.* -cat'ed, -cat'ing [< L *coruscus*, vibrating] to glitter; sparkle —**cor'us·ca'tion** *n.*

cor·vette (kôr vet') *n.* [Fr] a fast warship smaller than a destroyer and used chiefly for convoy duty

Co·sa Nos·tra (kō'sə nō'strə) *name for* MAFIA, esp. in U.S.

co·sign (kō'sin') *vt., vi.* 1 to sign (a promissory note) in addition to the maker, thus becoming responsible if the maker defaults 2 to sign jointly —**co'sign'er** *n.*

co·sig'na·to'ry (-sig'nə tōr'ē) *n., pl.* -ries one of two or more joint signers, as of a treaty

cos·met·ic (kəz met'ik) *adj.* [< Gr *kosmos*, order] beautifying, or correcting faults in, the face, hair, etc. —*n.* a cosmetic preparation, as lipstick —**cos·met'i·cal·ly** *adv.*

cos'me·tol'o·gy (-mə täl'ə jē) *n.* the work of a beautician —**cos'me·tol'o·gist** *n.*

cos·mic (kəz'mik) *adj.* [< Gr *kosmos*, universe] 1 of the cosmos 2 vast

cosmic rays streams of high-energy charged particles from outer space

cos·mog·o·ny (kəz mäg'ə nē) *n.* [< Gr *kosmos*, universe + *-gonos*, generation] 1 the study of the origin of the universe 2 *pl.* -nies a theory of this

cos·mol'o·gy (-mäl'ə jē) *n.* [< ML] 1 the scientific study of the form, evolution, etc. of the universe 2 the branch of metaphysics dealing with the origin and structure of the universe —**cos'mo·log'i·cal** (-mə lāj'ə kəl) *adj.*

cos·mo·naut (kəz'mə nôt') *n.* [Russ *kosmonavt*] a Soviet or Russian astronaut

cos·mo·pol·i·tan (kəz'mə päl'ə tən) *adj.* [< Gr *kosmos*, universe + *polis*, city-state] 1 common to or representative of all or many parts of the world 2 not bound by local or national habits or prejudices; at home in all places —*n.* a cosmopolitan person or thing; also **cos·mop'o·lite'** (-măp'ə lit')

cos·mos (kəz'məs, -mōs') *n.* [< Gr *kosmos*, universe] 1 the universe considered as an orderly system 2 any complete and orderly system

co·spon·sor (kō'spän'sər) *n.* a joint sponsor, as of a proposed piece of legislation —*vt.* to be a cosponsor of —**co'spon'sor·ship** *n.*

Cos·sack (käs'ak', -ək) *n.* a member of any of several groups of peasants that lived in autonomous communal settlements, esp. in the Ukraine, until the late 19th c.

cost (kôst) *vt.* **cost, cost'ing** [< L *com-*, together + *stare*, to stand] 1 to be obtained for (a certain price) 2 to

require the expenditure, loss, etc. of —
n. 1 the amount of money, etc. asked or paid for a thing; price 2 the time, effort, etc. needed to do something 3 loss; sacrifice —**at all costs** by any means required

co-star (kō'stär'; *for v., usually kō'stär'*) **n.** any featured actor or actress given equal billing with another in a movie, play, etc. —**vt., vi. -starred', -star'ring** to present as or be a costar

Cos-ta Ri-ca (käs'tə rē'kə, kōs'-, kōs'-) **n.** country in Central America: 19,730 sq. mi.; pop. 2,417,000 —**Cos'ta Ri'can**

cost-ef-fec-tive (kōst'ə fek'tiv) **adj.** producing good results for the amount of money spent; efficient or economical —
cost'-ef-fec'tive-ness **n.**

cos-tive (käs'tiv, kōs'-) **adj.** [*< L constipare, to press together*] constipated or constipating

cost'ly **adj. -li-er, -li-est** [ME] 1 costing much; expensive 2 magnificent —
cost'li-ness **n.**

cost of living the average cost of the necessities of life, as food, shelter, and clothes

cos-tume (käs'tōom', -tyōom') **n.** [*< L consuetudo, custom*] 1 *a*) the style of dress typical of a certain country, period, etc. *b*) a set of such clothes, as worn in a play 2 a set of outer clothes —**vt. -tumed', -tum'ing** to provide with a costume

co-sy (kō'zē) **adj. -si-er, -si-est, n., pl. -sies** chiefly Brit. sp. of COZY —**co'si-ly** **adv. —co'si-ness** **n.**

cot¹ (kät) **n.** [*< Sans khātuvā*] a narrow, collapsible bed, as one made of canvas on a folding frame

cot² (kät) **n.** [OE] a small shelter

cote (köt) **n.** [ME] a small shelter for doves, sheep, etc.

co-te-rie (köt'ər ē) **n.** [Fr] a close circle of friends; clique

co-ter-mi-nous (kō tər'mə nəs) **adj.** CONTERMINOUS

co-til-lion (kō til'yən) **n.** [*< OFr cote, coat*] 1 an intricate, formal group dance 2 a formal ball Also sp. **co-til'lon**

cot-tage (kät'ij) **n.** [ME] 1 a small house 2 a house used for vacations —
cot'tag-er **n.**

cottage cheese a soft, white cheese made from the curds of sour milk

cot-ter pin (kät'ər) a pin with two stems that can be spread apart to fasten the pin in place

cot-ton (kät'n) **n.** [*< Ar qutun*] 1 the soft, white hairs around the seeds of certain plants of the mallow family 2 such a plant or plants 3 thread or cloth made of cotton —**cotton to** [Inf.] to take a liking to —**cot'ton-y** **adj.**

cotton gin [see GIN²] a machine for separating cotton from the seeds

cot'ton-mouth' **n.** WATER MOCCASIN

cot'ton-seed' **n.** the seed of the cotton plant, yielding an oil (cottonseed oil) used in margarine, cooking oil, soap, etc.

cot'ton-tail' **n.** a common American rabbit with a short, fluffy tail

cot'ton-wood' **n.** a poplar that has seeds thickly covered with cottony or silky hairs

cot-y-le-don (kät'ə lēd'n) **n.** [*< Gr kotylē, cavity*] the first leaf or one of the first pair of leaves produced by the embryo of a flowering plant

couch (kouch) **n.** [*< OFr coucher, lie down*] an article of furniture on which one may sit or lie down; sofa —**vt.** 1 to place as on a couch 2 to word in a certain way; phrase; express

cou-gar (kōō'gər) **n.** [*< AmInd (Brazil)*] a large, powerful, tawny cat; mountain lion; puma

cough (kōf) **vi.** [ME *coughen*] to expel air suddenly and noisily from the lungs —**vt.** to expel by coughing —**n.** 1 the act of coughing 2 a condition causing frequent coughing —**cough up** [Slang] to hand over (money, etc.)

cough drop a small medicated tablet for the relief of coughs, etc.

could (kood) **v.aux.** 1 *pt. of CAN¹* 2 an auxiliary verb generally equivalent to CAN¹, expressing esp. a shade of doubt [*it-could be so*]

cou-lomb (kōō'lam', -lōm') **n.** [after C. A. de Coulomb (1736-1806), Fr physicist] a unit of electric charge equal to the charge of 6.281×10^{18} electrons

coun-cil (koun'səl) **n.** [*< L com-, together + calere, to call*] 1 a group of people called together for discussion, advice, etc. 2 an administrative, advisory, or legislative body —**coun'cil-man** (-mən), **pl. -men** (-mən), **n. —coun'cil-per'son** **n. —coun'cil-wom'an**, **pl. -wom'en**, **fem.n.**

coun'ci-lor (-sə lər) **n.** a member of a council

coun-sel (koun'səl) **n.** [*< L consilium*] 1 advice 2 a lawyer or group of lawyers 3 a consultant —**vt. -seled or -selled, -sel-ing or -sel-ling** 1 to give advice to 2 to recommend (an action, etc.)

coun'se-lor or coun'sel-lor (-sə lər) **n.** 1 an advisor 2 a lawyer 3 one in charge of children at a camp

count¹ (kount) **vt.** [*< L computare, compute*] 1 to name or add up, unit by unit, to get a total 2 to take account of; include 3 to believe to be; consider —**vi.** 1 to name numbers or add up items in order 2 to be taken into account; have importance 3 to have a specified value: often with *for* 4 to rely or depend (*on or upon*) —**n.** 1 a counting 2 the total number 3 a reckoning 4 *Law* any of the charges in an indictment

count² (kount) **n.** [*< L comes, companion*] a European nobleman with a rank equal to that of an English earl

count'down' **n.** 1 the schedule of operations just before the firing of a rocket, etc. 2 the counting off, in reverse order, of time units in this schedule

coun-te-nance (koun'tə nəns, kount'n əns) **n.** [*< L continentia, bearing*] 1 facial expression 2 the face 3 approval; support —**vt. -nanced, -nanc-ing** to approve or tolerate

count-er¹ (kount'ər) **n.** 1 a person, device, etc. that counts something 2 a

small disk for keeping count in games
 3 an imitation coin or token 4 a long table, cabinet top, etc. for the displaying of goods, serving of food, etc. — **under the counter** in a secret manner: said of sales, etc. made illegally

coun·ter² (kount'ər) *adv.* [*< L contra*, against] in opposition; opposite — *adj.* contrary; opposed — *n.* the opposite; contrary — *vt., vi.* to act, do, etc. counter to; oppose

counter- [*< L contra-*, against] *combining form* 1 contrary to [*counterclockwise*] 2 in retaliation [*counterattack*] 3 complementary [*counterpart*]

coun'ter·act' *vt.* to act against; neutralize — **coun'ter·ac'tion** *n.*

coun'ter·at·tack' *n.* an attack made in opposition to another attack — *vt., vi.* to attack so as to offset the enemy's attack

coun'ter·bal·ance *n.* a weight, force, etc. that balances another. — *vt. -anced, -anc-ing* to be a counterbalance to; offset

coun'ter·claim' *n.* an opposing claim — *vt., vi.* to present as, or make, a counterclaim

coun'ter·clock'wise' *adj., adv.* in a direction opposite to that in which the hands of a clock move

coun'ter·cul'ture *n.* a culture with a lifestyle that is opposed to the prevailing culture

coun'ter·es'pi·o·nage' *n.* actions to prevent or thwart enemy espionage

coun'ter·feit' (-fit') *adj.* [*< OFr contre-*, counter- + *faire*, to make] 1 made in imitation of something genuine so as to deceive; forged 2 sham; pretended — *n.* an imitation made to deceive; forgery — *vt., vi.* 1 to make an imitation of (money, etc.), usually to deceive 2 to pretend — **coun'ter·feit'er** *n.*

count'er·man' (-man') *n., pl. -men'* (-men') a man who serves customers at a counter, as of a lunchroom

coun'ter·mand' (-mand') *vt.* [*< L contra*, against + *mandare*, to command] to cancel or revoke by a contrary order

coun'ter·mel'o·dy *n.* a melody distinct from the principal melody

coun'ter·pane' (-pān') *n.* [*ult. < L culcita puncta*, embroidered quilt] a bedspread

coun'ter·part' *n.* 1 one that closely resembles another 2 a copy or duplicate

coun'ter·point' *n.* [*< It: see COUNTER- & POINT*] 1 the technique of combining two or more distinct lines of music that sound simultaneously 2 any melody played or sung against a basic melody 3 a thing set up in contrast with another

coun'ter·poise' *n.* [*see COUNTER² & POISE*] 1 a counterbalance 2 equilibrium — *vt. -poised', -pois'ing* to counterbalance

coun'ter·pro·duc'tive *adj.* having results contrary to those intended

coun'ter·rev'o·lu'tion *n.* a political movement against a government set up by a previous revolution — **coun'ter·**

rev'o·lu'tion·ar'y, *pl. -ies, n., adj.*

coun'ter·sign' *n.* 1 a signature added to a previously signed document, as for confirmation 2 a secret signal to another, as a password — *vt.* to confirm with one's own signature

coun'ter·sink' *vt. -sunk', -sink'ing* 1 to enlarge the top part of (a hole) so that the head of a bolt, etc. will fit flush with the surface 2 to sink (a bolt, etc.) into such a hole

coun'ter·ten'or *n.* 1 the range of the highest male voice, above tenor 2 a voice or singer with such a range

count'er·top' *n.* the upper surface of a COUNTER¹ (sense 4)

coun'ter·weight' *n.* a counterbalance

count·ess (kount'is) *n.* 1 the wife or widow of a count or earl 2 a woman of nobility with a rank equal to that of a count or earl

count·less (kount'lis) *adj.* too many to count; innumerable; myriad

coun·try (kun'trē) *n., pl. -tries* [*< L contra*, against] 1 an area of land; region 2 the whole land, or the people, of a nation 3 the land of one's birth or citizenship 4 land with farms and small towns 5 *short for* COUNTRY MUSIC

country club a social club with a clubhouse, golf course, etc.

coun'try·man (-mən) *n., pl. -men* (-mən) a person of one's own country

country music popular music that derives from the rural folk music of the S U.S.

coun'try·side' *n.* a rural region

coun'try·wide' *adj., adv.* throughout the entire nation

coun·ty (kount'ē) *n., pl. -ties* [*< ML comitatus*, jurisdiction of a count] a small administrative district of a country, U.S. state, etc.

coup (kōō) *n., pl. coups* (kōōz) [*Fr < L colaphus*, a blow] 1 a sudden, successful action 2 COUP D'ÉTAT

coup de grâce (kōō' də grās') [*Fr*, stroke of mercy] 1 the blow, shot, etc. that brings death to a sufferer 2 a finishing stroke

coup d'é·tat (kōō' də tā') [*Fr*, stroke of state] the sudden, forcible overthrow as of a ruler or government

coupe (kōōp) *n.* [*< Fr couper*, to cut] a closed, two-door automobile

cou·ple (kup'al) *n.* [*< L copula*] 1 a link 2 a pair of things or persons, as a man and woman who are engaged, married, etc. 3 [*Inf.*] a few — *vt., vi. -pled, -pling* to link or unite

cou·plet (kup'lit) *n.* two successive lines of poetry, esp. two that rhyme

cou·pling (kup'lin) *n.* 1 a joining together 2 a mechanical device for joining parts together

cou·pon (kōō'pān', kyōō'-) *n.* [*Fr < couper*, to cut] 1 a detachable printed statement on a bond, specifying the interest due at a given time 2 a certificate entitling one to a specified right, as a discount or gift

cour·age (kər'ij) *n.* [*< L cor*, heart] the quality of being brave; valor

cou·ra·geous (kə rā'jəs) *adj.* having or

showing courage; brave —**cou-ra'geous-ly** *adv.*

cou-ri-er (koo'rē ər, kər'-) *n.* [**< L** *currere*, to run] a messenger

course (kōrs) *n.* [**< L** *currere*, to run] 1 an onward movement; progress 2 a way, path, or channel 3 the direction taken 4 a regular manner of procedure or conduct [our wisest *course*] 5 a series of like things in order 6 a part of a meal served at one time 7 *Educ. a*) a complete series of studies, as for a degree *b*) any of the separate units of such a series —*vi.* **coursed**, **cours'ing** to run or race —**in due course** in the usual sequence (of events) —**in the course of** during —**of course** 1 naturally 2 certainly

cours-er (kōr'sər) *n.* a graceful, spirited, or swift horse

court (kōrt) *n.* [**< L** *cohors*, enclosure] 1 a courtyard 2 a short street 3 a space for playing a game, as basketball 4 *a*) the palace, or the family, etc., of a sovereign *b*) a sovereign and councilors, etc. as a governing body *c*) a formal gathering held by a sovereign 5 attention paid to someone in order to get something 6 *Law a*) a judge or judges *b*) a place where trials are held —*vt.* 1 to pay attention to (a person) so as to get something 2 to seek as a mate; woo 3 to try to get [to *court* favor] —*vi.* to carry on a courtship

cour-te-ous (kurt'ē əs) *adj.* [see *prec.* & **-EOUS**] polite and gracious —**cour'te-ous-ly** *adv.*

cour-te-san (kōrt'ə zən) *n.* [see **COURT**] a prostitute: also **cour'te-zan**

cour-te-sy (kurt'ə sē) *n., pl. -sies* 1 courteous behavior 2 a polite or considerate act or remark —*adj.* provided free; complimentary

court'house' *n.* 1 a building housing law courts 2 a building housing offices of a county government

cour-ti-er (kōrt'ē ər, -yər) *n.* an attendant at a royal court

court'ly *adj.* **-li-er**, **-li-est** suitable for a king's court; dignified; elegant — **court'li-ness** *n.*

court'-mar-tial *n., pl. courts'-mar-tial*; for 2, now often **court'-mar-tials** 1 a court in the armed forces for the trial of persons accused of breaking military law 2 a trial by a court-martial 3 a conviction by a court-martial —*vt.* **-tial-ed** or **-tialled**, **-tial-ing** or **-tial-ling** to try or convict by a court-martial

court reporter one who records exactly what is said in a courtroom during a trial

court'room' *n.* *Law* a room in which trials are held

court'ship' *n.* the act, process, or period of wooing

court'side' *n.* *Sports* the area immediately around a basketball court, tennis court, etc.

court'yard' *n.* a space enclosed by walls, adjoining or within a large building

cous-cous (kōōs'kōōs') *n.* [Fr **< Ar** *kas-kasa*, to grind] a N African dish made with crushed grain, served as with lamb in a spicy sauce

cous-in (kuz'an) *n.* [ult. **< L** *com-*, with + *soror*, sister] 1 the son or daughter of one's uncle or aunt 2 loosely, any relative by blood or marriage

cous'in-age (-ij) *n.* 1 the relationship between cousins 2 a group of cousins or relatives

cou-tu-ri-er (kōō'toor ē ā') *n.* [Fr] a designer of women's fashions —**cou'tu-ri-ère'** (-ē er') *fem.n.*

cove (kōv) *n.* [OE *cofa*, cave] a small bay or inlet

cov-en (kuv'an) *n.* [see **CONVENE**] a gathering or meeting, esp. of witches

cov-e-nant (kuv'ə nant) *n.* [see **CONVENE**] an agreement; compact —*vt.* to promise by a covenant —*vi.* to make a covenant

cov-er (kuv'ər) *vt.* [**< L** *co-*, intens. + *operire*, to hide] 1 to place something on or over 2 to extend over 3 to clothe 4 to conceal; hide 5 to shield, protect, or watch (someone or something) 6 to include; deal with [to *cover* a subject] 7 to protect financially [to *cover* a loss] 8 to accept (a bet) 9 to travel over 10 to point a firearm at 11 *Journalism* to gather the details of (a news story) —*vi.* 1 to spread over a surface, as a liquid does 2 to provide an alibi (*for*) —*n.* 1 anything that covers, as a lid, top, etc. 2 a shelter for protection 3 a tablecloth and setting 4 **COVER CHARGE** 5 something used to hide one's real actions, etc. —**cover up** to keep blunders, crimes, etc. from being known —**take cover** to seek shelter —**under cover** in secrecy or concealment

cov'er-age (-ij) *n.* 1 the amount, extent, etc. covered by something 2 *Insurance* the risks covered by a policy

cov'er-all' *n.* [usually *pl.*] a one-piece outer garment, often worn over regular clothing while working, etc.

cover charge a fixed charge in addition to the cost of food and drink, as at a nightclub or restaurant

cover crop a crop, as clover, grown to prevent erosion and restore soil fertility

covered wagon a large wagon with an arched cover of canvas

cov'er-ing *n.* anything that covers

cov'er-let (-lit) *n.* [**< OFr** *covrir*, to cover + *lit*, bed] a bedspread

cover letter an explanatory letter sent with an enclosure or package: also **cov-er-ing letter**

cover story the article in a magazine that deals with the subject depicted on the cover

cov-ert (kō'vərt, kuv'ərt) *adj.* [see **COVER**] hidden or disguised —*n.* a protected place, as for game —**cov'ert-ly** *adv.*

cov'er-up' *n.* an attempt to hide blunders, crimes, etc.

cov-et (kuv'it) *vt., vi.* [**< L** *cupiditas*, cupidity] to want intensely (esp., something that another person has)

cov'et-ous *adj.* tending to covet; greedy —**cov'et-ous-ly** *adv.* —**cov'et-ous-ness** *n.*

cov·ey (kuv'ē) *n.*, *pl.* **-eys** [*< OFr cover, to hatch*] a small flock of birds, esp. partridges or quail

cow¹ (kou) *n.* [*OE cu*] 1 the mature female of domestic cattle, valued for its milk 2 the mature female of certain other mammals, as the whale

cow² (kou) *vt.* [*< ON kūga, subdue*] to make timid; intimidate

cow·ard (kou'ərd) *n.* [*ult. < L cauda, tail*] a person who lacks courage, esp. one who is shamefully afraid

cow'ard·ice' (-ər dis') *n.* lack of courage

cow'ard·ly *adj.* of or like a coward — *adv.* in the manner of a coward — **cow'ard·li·ness** *n.*

cow'boy' *n.* a ranch worker who herds cattle: also **cow'hand'** — **cow'girl'** *fem.n.*

cow·er (kou'ər) *vi.* [*ME couren*] to crouch or huddle up, as from fear or cold; shrink; cringe

cow'hide' *n.* 1 the hide of a cow 2 leather from it

cowl (koul) *n.* [*< L cucullus, hood*] 1 a monk's hood or a monk's cloak with a hood 2 a hood-shaped part or structure

cow·lick (kou'lik') *n.* [*< its looking as if licked by a cow*] a tuft of hair that cannot easily be combed flat

cowl·ing (koul'in) *n.* [*see COWL*] a metal covering for an airplane engine, etc.

co·work·er (kō'wər'kər) *n.* a fellow worker

cow'poke' *n.* [*Inf.*] COWBOY

cow pony a horse for herding cattle

cow'pox' *n.* a disease of cows: a vaccine with its virus gives temporary immunity to smallpox

cox·comb (kaks'kōm') *n.* [*for cock's comb*] a silly, vain fellow; dandy

cox·swain (kāk'sən, -swān') *n.* [*< cock, small boat + SWAIN*] one who steers a boat or racing shell

coy (koi) *adj.* [*ME, quiet*] 1 bashful; shy 2 pretending to be shy — **coy'ly** *adv.* — **coy'ness** *n.*

coy·o·te (kī ōt'ē, kī'ōt') *n.* [*< AmInd (Mex)*] a small, wolflike animal of North America

coz·en (kuz'ən) *vt.*, *vi.* [*< ME cosin, fraud*] to cheat; deceive — **coz'en·age** *n.*

co·zy (kō'zē) *adj.* **-zi·er**, **-zi·est** [*Scot*] warm and comfortable; snug — *n.*, *pl.* **-zies** a padded cover for a teapot, to keep the tea hot — **cozy up to** [*Inf.*] to try to ingratiate oneself with — **co'zi·ly** *adv.* — **co'zi·ness** *n.*

CPA *abbrev.* Certified Public Accountant

CPI *abbrev.* consumer price index

CPO *abbrev.* Chief Petty Officer

CPR *abbrev.* cardiopulmonary resuscitation

CPU (sē'pē'yōō') *n.* central processing unit: also **cpu**

Cr *Chem. symbol for chromium*



BLUE CRAB

crab (krab) *n.* [*OE crabba*] 1 a crustacean with four pairs of legs and a pair of pincers 2 a peevish person — *vi.* **crabbed**, **crab'bing** [*Inf.*] to complain

crab apple 1 a small, very sour apple 2 a tree bearing crab apples: also **crab tree**

crab·bed (krab'id) *adj.* [*< CRAB (APPLE)*] 1 peevish 2 hard to read or understand, as handwriting — **crab'bed·ness** *n.*

crab'by *adj.* **-bi·er**, **-bi·est** [*see prec.*] cross and complaining — **crab'bi·ly** *adv.* — **crab'bi·ness** *n.*

crab grass a weedy grass, with freely rooting stems, that spreads rapidly

crack¹ (krak) *vi.* [*< OE cracian, resound*] 1 to make a sudden, sharp noise, as in breaking 2 to break or split, usually without separation of parts 3 to rasp or shift erratically in register: said of the voice 4 [*Inf.*] to break down as from strain — *vt.* 1 to cause to make a sharp, sudden noise 2 to cause to break or split 3 to break down (petroleum) into the lighter hydrocarbons of gasoline, etc. 4 to hit hard 5 to solve 6 [*Inf.*] to break into or force open 7 [*Slang*] to make (a joke) — *n.* 1 a sudden, sharp noise 2 a partial break; fracture 3 a chink; crevice 4 a cracking of the voice 5 a sudden, sharp blow 6 [*Inf.*] an attempt or try 7 [*Slang*] a joke or gibe — *adj.* [*Inf.*] excellent; first-rate — **crack down (on)** to become strict (with) — **cracked up to be** [*Inf.*] believed to be — **crack up** 1 to crash 2 [*Inf.*] *a*) to break down physically or mentally *b*) to laugh or cry

crack² (krak) *n.* [*Slang*] a highly potent and purified form of cocaine for smoking

crack'down' *n.* a resorting to strict or stricter discipline or punishment

cracked *adj.* 1 having a crack or cracks 2 sounding harsh or strident 3 [*Inf.*] crazy

crack'er *n.* 1 a firecracker 2 a thin, crisp wafer

crack'er·jack' *adj.* [*Slang*] outstanding; excellent — *n.* [*Slang*] an excellent person or thing

crack'head' *n.* [*Slang*] a habitual user of CRACK²

crack·le (krak'al) *vi.* **-led**, **-ling** [*ME crakelen, to crack*] to make a series of slight, sharp, popping sounds — *n.* 1 a series of such sounds 2 the fine, irregular surface cracks on some pottery, etc.

crack'pot' *n.* [*Inf.*] a crazy or eccentric person — *adj.* [*Inf.*] crazy or eccentric

crack'up' *n.* 1 a crash 2 [*Inf.*] a physi-

cal or mental breakdown

-cra-cy (krə sē) [*< Gr kratos, rule*] *combining form* a (specified) type of government; rule by [*autocracy*]

cra-dle (krād'əl) *n.* [OE *cradol*] 1 a baby's small bed, usually on rockers 2 infancy 3 the place of a thing's beginning 4 anything like a cradle —*vt.* -dled, -dling 1 to place, rock, or hold in or as in a cradle 2 to take care of in infancy

cra'dle-song *n.* a lullaby

craft (kraft) *n.* [OE *cræft, power*] 1 a special skill or art 2 an occupation requiring special skill 3 the members of a skilled trade 4 guile; slyness 5 *pl.* craft a boat, ship, or aircraft

crafts-man (krafts'mən) *n., pl.* -men (-mən) a skilled worker; artisan — **crafts'man-ship** *n.*

craft'y *adj.* -i-er, -i-est [ME *crafti, sly*] subtly deceitful; sly — **craft'i-ly** *adv.* — **craft'i-ness** *n.*

crag (krag) *n.* [*< Celt*] a steep, rugged rock rising from a rock mass — **crag'gy**, -gi-er, -gi-est, *adj.*

cram (kram) *vt.* **crammed**, **cram'ming** [OE *crammian*] 1 to pack full or too full 2 to stuff; force 3 to feed to excess —*vi.* 1 to eat too much or too quickly 2 to study a subject in a hurried, intensive way, as for an examination

cramp (kramp) *n.* [*< OFr crampe, bent*] 1 a sudden, painful, involuntary contraction of a muscle from chill, strain, etc. 2 [usually *pl.*] abdominal or uterine spasms and pain —*vt.* 1 to cause a cramp or cramps in 2 [*< MDu krampe, bent in*] to hamper; restrain

cramped *adj.* 1 confined or restricted 2 irregular and crowded, as some handwriting

cran-ber-ry (kran'ber'ē, -bər ē) *n., pl.* -ries [*< Du kranebere*] 1 a firm, sour, edible, red berry, the fruit of an evergreen shrub 2 the shrub

crane (krān) *n.* [OE *cran*] 1 a large wading bird with very long legs and neck 2 a machine for lifting or moving heavy weights, using a movable projecting arm or a horizontal traveling beam —*vt., vi.* **craned**, **cran'ing** to stretch (the neck)

cra-ni-um (krā'nē əm) *n., pl.* -ni-ums or -ni-a (-ə) [*< Gr kranion*] the skull, esp. the part containing the brain — **cra'ni-al** *adj.*

crank (krank) *n.* [OE *cranc-*, something twisted] 1 a handle or arm bent at right angles and connected to a machine shaft to transmit motion 2 [Inf.] an eccentric or irritable person — *vt.* to start or operate by a crank — **crank out** [Inf.] to produce steadily and prolifically

crank'case *n.* the metal casing that encloses the crankshaft of an internal-combustion engine

crank'shaft *n.* a shaft with one or more cranks for transmitting motion

crank'y *adj.* -i-er, -i-est 1 apt to operate poorly 2 irritable 3 eccentric — **crank'i-ly** *adv.* — **crank'i-ness** *n.*

cran-ny (kran'ē) *n., pl.* -nies [*< VL crena, a notch*] a crevice; crack

crap (krap) *n.* [*< ML crappa, chaff*] [Slang] 1 nonsense 2 junk; trash 3 excrement: somewhat vulgar — **crap'py**, -pi-er, -pi-est, *adj.*

crape (krāp) *n.* 1 CREPE (sense 1) 2 a piece of black crepe as a sign of mourning

crap-pie (krap'ē) *n.* a small North American sunfish

craps (kraps) *n.* [Fr *crabs*] a gambling game played with two dice

crap'shoot *n.* [Inf.] a very risky undertaking

crap-shoot-er (krap'shōōt'ər) *n.* a gambler at craps

crash (krash) *vi.* [ME] 1 to fall, collide, or break with a loud noise 2 to collapse; fail 3 [Slang] to sleep or get a temporary place to sleep —*vt.* 1 to cause (a car, airplane, etc.) to crash 2 to force with or as with a crashing noise: with *in, out, through*, etc. 3 [Inf.] to get into (a party, etc.) without an invitation, etc. —*n.* 1 a loud, sudden noise 2 a crashing 3 a sudden collapse, as of business —*adj.* [Inf.] using all possible resources, effort, and speed [*a crash program to build roads*]

crash'-land' *vt., vi.* to bring (an airplane) down in a forced landing, esp. without use of the landing gear — **crash landing**

crash pad [Slang] a place to live or sleep temporarily

crass (kras) *adj.* [L *crassus, thick*] 1 tasteless, insensitive, etc. 2 materialistic — **crass'ly** *adv.* — **crass'ness** *n.*

-crat (krat) [*< Gr kratos, rule*] *combining form* member or supporter of (a specified kind of) government

crate (krāt) *n.* [L *cratis, wickerwork*] a packing case made of slats of wood — *vt.* **crat'ed**, **crat'ing** to pack in a crate

crat-er (krāt'ər) *n.* [*< Gr kratēr, mixing bowl*] 1 a bowl-shaped cavity, as at the mouth of a volcano 2 a pit made by an exploding bomb, etc. —*vt.* to make craters in —*vi.* to form craters

crat-er (krə vat') *n.* [*< Fr*] a necktie

crave (krāv) *vt.* **craved**, **crav'ing** [OE *cravian*] 1 to ask for earnestly; beg 2 to desire strongly

crav-en (krā'vən) *adj.* [*< L crepare, to rattle*] cowardly —*n.* a coward — **crav'en-ly** *adv.* — **crav'en-ness** *n.*

crav'ing *n.* an intense and prolonged desire, as for affection or for a food or drug

crawl (krô) *n.* [ME *craue*] 1 the crop of a bird 2 the stomach

craw-fish (krô'fish') *n., pl.* -fish' or -(for different species) -fish'es crayfish

crawl (krôl) *vi.* [*< ON krafla*] 1 to move slowly by dragging the body along the ground 2 to go on hands and knees; creep 3 to move slowly 4 to move or act in a servile manner 5 to swarm (*with* crawling things) —*n.* 1 a slow movement 2 an overarm swimming stroke

crawl space an unfinished space, as under a floor, allowing access to wiring,

plumbing, etc.

crawl'y *adj.* -i-er, -i-est CREEPY

cray·fish (krā'fish') *n.*, *pl.* -fish' or (for different species) -fish'es [*<* OHG *krebiz*] a freshwater crustacean somewhat like a little lobster

cray·on (krā'an, -än') *n.* [*Fr*, pencil *<* L *creta*, chalk] 1 a small stick of chalk, charcoal, or colored wax, used for drawing, coloring, or writing 2 a drawing made with crayons —*vt.* to draw or color with crayons

craze (krāz) *vt.*, *vi.* crazed, craz'ing [*ME crasen*, to crack] to make or become insane —*n.* a fad

cra·zy (krā'zē) *adj.* -zi-er, -zi-est [*<* prec.] 1 unsound of mind; insane 2 [*Inf.*] foolish; not sensible 3 [*Inf.*] very enthusiastic or eager —*n.*, *pl.* -zies [*Slang*] a crazy person —like crazy [*Inf.*] with great energy, intensity, etc. —cra'zi-ly *adv.* —cra'zi-ness *n.*

crazy bone FUNNY BONE

crazy quilt 1 a patchwork quilt with no regular design 2 a hodgepodge

creak (krēk) *vi.*, *vt.* [*echoic*] to make, cause to make, or move with a harsh, squeaking sound —*n.* such a sound —creak'y, -i-er, -i-est, *adj.* —creak'i-ly *adv.* —creak'i-ness *n.*

cream (krēm) *n.* [*<* OFr] 1 the oily, yellowish part of milk 2 a cosmetic, emulsion, or food with a creamy consistency 3 the best part 4 yellowish white —*adj.* made of or with cream —*vt.* 1 to add cream to 2 to beat into a creamy consistency 3 [*Slang*] a) to beat or defeat soundly b) to hurt, damage, etc., as by striking with great force —cream of creamed purée of —cream'y, -i-er, -i-est, *adj.* —cream'i-ness *n.*

cream cheese a soft, white cheese made of cream or of milk and cream

cream'er *n.* 1 a pitcher for cream 2 a nondairy substance used in place of cream

cream'er-y *n.*, *pl.* -ies a place where dairy products are processed or sold

cream of tartar a white substance used in baking powder, etc.

crease (krēs) *n.* [*<* ME *creste*, crest] 1 a line made by folding and pressing 2 a fold or wrinkle —*vt.* creased, creas'ing 1 to make a crease in 2 to wrinkle —*vi.* to become creased

cre·atē (krē āt') *vt.* -at'ed, -at'ing [*<* L *creare*] 1 to cause to come into existence; make; originate 2 to bring about; give rise to; cause

cre·a'tion (-ā'shən) *n.* 1 a creating or being created 2 the universe 3 anything created —the Creation God's creating of the world

cre·a'tive (-āt'iv) *adj.* 1 creating or able to create 2 inventive 3 stimulating the imagination —cre·a'tive-ly *adv.* —cre·a'tive-ness *n.* —cre·a'tiv'i-ty (-ā tiv'ə tē) *n.*

cre·a'tor (-āt'ər) *n.* [*L*] one who creates —the Creator God

crea·ture (krē'chər) *n.* [*<* L *creatura*] a living being, animal or human

crèche (kresh, krāsh) *n.* [*Fr*] a display of the stable scene of Jesus' birth

cre·dence (krēd'ns) *n.* [*<* L *credere*, believe] belief, esp. in the reports or testimony of another

cre·den·tial (kri den'shəl) *n.* [*see* prec.] [*usually pl.*] a letter or certificate showing one's right to a certain position or authority

cre·den·za (kri den'zə) *n.* [*It*] 1 a type of buffet or sideboard 2 a low office cabinet

credibility gap 1 a disparity between what is said and the facts 2 the inability to have one's truthfulness or honesty accepted

cred·i·ble (kred'ə bəl) *adj.* [*<* L *credere*, believe] that can be believed; reliable —cred'i-bil'i-ty *n.* —cred'i-bly *adv.*

cred·it (kred'it) *n.* [*<* L *credere*, believe] 1 belief; confidence 2 favorable reputation 3 praise or approval 4 a person or thing bringing approval or honor 5 a) acknowledgment of work done b) [*pl.*] a list of such acknowledgments in a film, book, etc. 6 a sum available to one, as in a bank account 7 the entry, in an account, of payment on a debt 8 trust in one's ability to meet payments when due 9 the time allowed for payment 10 a completed unit of study in a school —*vt.* 1 to believe; trust 2 to give credit to or commendation for 3 to give credit in a bank account, etc. —do credit to to bring honor to —on credit with an agreement to pay later

cred'it·a·ble *adj.* deserving some credit or praise —cred'it·a·bly *adv.*

credit card a card entitling one to charge purchases, etc. at certain businesses

cred'i·tor (-it ər) *n.* one to whom money is owed

credit union a cooperative association for pooling savings of members and making low-interest loans to them

cred'it·wor·thy *adj.* sufficiently sound financially to be granted credit —cred'it·wor·thi-ness *n.*

cre·do (krē'dō, krā'-) *n.*, *pl.* -dos' [*L*, I believe] a creed

cred·u·lous (krej'ooləs, -ə ləs) *adj.* [*<* L *credere*, believe] tending to believe too readily —cre·du·li·ty (krə dōō'lə tē, -dyōō-) *n.* —cred'u-lous-ly *adv.*

creed (krēd) *n.* [*<* L *credo*, I believe] 1 a brief statement of religious belief, esp. one accepted as authoritative by a church 2 any statement of belief, principles, etc.

creek (krēk, krik) *n.* [*<* ON *kriki*, a bend, winding] a small stream —up the creek [*Slang*] in trouble

creel (krēl) *n.* [*<* L *cratis*, wickerwork] a wicker basket for holding fish

creep (krēp) *vi.* crept, creep'ing [*OE creopan*] 1 to move with the body close to the ground, as on hands and knees 2 to move slowly or stealthily 3 to grow along the ground or a wall, as ivy —*n.* 1 the act of creeping 2 [*Slang*] an annoying or disgusting person —make one's flesh creep to give one a feeling of fear, disgust, etc. —the creeps [*Inf.*] a feeling of fear, disgust, etc. —creep'er

creep'y *adj.* -i-er, -i-est having or causing a feeling of fear or disgust — **creep'i-ly** *adv.* — **creep'i-ness** *n.*

cre-mains (krē mānz') *pl.n.* the ashes remaining after cremation

cre-mate (krē'māt', kri māt') *vt.* -mat'ed, -mat'ing [*< L cremare*] to burn (a dead body) to ashes — **cre-ma'tion** *n.*

cre-ma-to-ry (krē'mə tōr'ē, krem'ə-) *n.*, *pl.* -ries a furnace for cremating: also **cre-ma-to'ri-um** (-ē əm), *pl.* -ri-ums, -ri-a (-ē ə), or -ries — *adj.* of or for cremation

crème de menthe (krem' də mǎnt', menth', mint') [*Fr*, cream of mint] a sweet, mint-flavored liqueur

crème fraîche (krem' fresh') [*Fr*, fresh cream] slightly fermented high-fat cream, used in sauces, desserts, etc.

cren-el-ate or **cren-el-late** (kren'əl āt') *vt.* -el-at'ed or -el-lat'ed, -el-at'ing or -el-lat'ing [*< VL crena*, a notch] to furnish with battlements or with squared notches — **cren'el-a'tion** or **cren'el-la'tion** *n.*

Cre-ole (krē'ōl') *n.* [*< Fr < Port crioulo*, native] 1 a person descended from the original French settlers of Louisiana 2 a person of mixed Creole and black descent 3 [c-] a language that develops when different languages remain in contact with each other — *adj.* [usually c-] prepared with sautéed tomatoes, green peppers, onions, spices, etc.

cre-o-sote (krē'ə sōt') *n.* [*< Gr kreas*, flesh + *sōzein*, to save] an oily liquid distilled from tar and used as a wood preservative, etc.

crepe or **crêpe** (krāp; for 5, also krep) *n.* [*< Fr < L crispus*, curly] 1 a thin, crinkled cloth of silk, rayon, wool, etc. 2 **CRAPE** (sense 2) 3 wrinkled soft rubber used for shoe soles: also **crepe rubber** 4 thin, crinkled paper: also **crepe paper** 5 a thin pancake, rolled and filled

crêpes su-zette (krāp' sōō zet') [*Fr*] crêpes rolled in a hot, orange-flavored sauce and served in flaming brandy

crept (krept) *vi. pt. & pp. of CREEP*

cre-scen-do (kri shen'dō') *adj.*, *adv.* [*It < L crescere*, grow] *Music* with a gradual increase in loudness: also written **cre-scen'do** — *n.*, *pl.* -dos' a gradual increase in loudness, force, etc.

cre-scent (kres'ənt) *n.* [*< L crescere*, grow] 1 a phase of a planet or a moon, when it appears to have one concave edge and one convex edge 2 anything shaped like this — *adj.* shaped like a crescent

crescent wrench [*< Crescent*, a trademark] a wrench with a crescent-shaped head and an adjustable jaw

cress (kres) *n.* [*OE cressa*] a plant with pungent leaves, as watercress, used in salads, etc.

crest (krest) *n.* [*< L crista*] 1 any growth on the head of an animal, as a comb or tuft 2 a heraldic device placed on seals, silverware, etc. 3 the top line or surface; summit 4 the highest point, level, degree, etc. — *vi.* to form or reach a crest — **crest'ed** *adj.*

crest'fall'en *adj.* dejected, disheartened, etc.

Cre-ta-ceous (kri tā'shəs, krē-) *adj.* [*< L creta*, chalk] of the latest period of the Mesozoic Era, marked by the dying out of dinosaurs, the rise of mammals and flowering plants, and the formation of oil deposits

Crete (krēt) Greek island in the E Mediterranean — **Cre-tan** (krēt'n) *adj.*, *n.*

cre-tonne (krē tǎn', krē'tǎn') *n.* [*Fr*, after *Creton*, village in Normandy] a heavy, printed cotton or linen cloth, used for curtains, slipcovers, etc.

cre-vasse (krə vas') *n.* [*Fr*] a deep crack, esp. in a glacier

crev-ice (krev'is) *n.* [*< L crepare*, to rattle] a narrow opening caused by a crack or split; fissure

crew¹ (krō) *n.* [*< L crescere*, grow] 1 a group of people working together [a road crew] 2 a ship's personnel, excluding the officers — **crew'man**, *pl.* -men (-mən), *n.*

crew² (krō) *vi.* [Chiefly Brit.] *alt. pt. of CROW*² (sense 1)

crew cut a man's haircut in which the hair is cropped close to the head

crew-el (krō'əl) *n.* [*ME crule*] a loosely twisted, worsted yarn — **crew'el-work** *n.*

crib (krib) *n.* [*OE*, ox stall] 1 a rack or box for fodder 2 a small bed with high sides, for a baby 3 an enclosure for storing grain 4 an underwater structure serving as a pier, water intake, etc. 5 [*Inf.*] a translation or other aid used dishonestly in doing schoolwork — *vt.* **cribbed**, **crib'bing** 1 to confine 2 to furnish with 'a crib 3 [*Inf.*] to plagiarize — *vi.* [*Inf.*] to do schoolwork dishonestly

crib-bage (krib'ij) *n.* a card game in which the object is to form combinations for points

crib death SUDDEN INFANT DEATH SYNDROME

crick¹ (krik) *n.* [*< ON kriki*, bend] a painful cramp in the neck, back, etc.

crick² (krik) *n.* [*Dial.*] CREEK

crick-et¹ (krik'it) *n.* [*< OFr criquer*, to creak] a leaping insect similar to a grasshopper

crick-et² (krik'it) *n.* [*OFr criquet*, a bat] an outdoor game played by two teams of eleven players each, using a ball, bats, and wickets

cried (krid) *vi.*, *vt. pt. & pp. of CRY*

cri-er (kri'ər) *n.* 1 one who cries 2 one who shouts out announcements, news, etc.

crime (krim) *n.* [*< L crimen*, offense] 1 an act in violation of a law; specif., a serious violation, as a felony 2 a sin

Cri-me-a (kri mē'ə) peninsula in SW Ukraine, extending into the Black Sea — **Cri-me'an** *adj.*

crim-i-nal (krim'ə nəl) *adj.* 1 having the nature of crime 2 relating to or guilty of crime — *n.* a person guilty of a crime — **crim'i-nal'i-ty** (-nal'ə tə) *n.* — **crim'i-nal-ly** *adv.*

crim'i-nal-ist (-nəl ist) *n.* an expert in the scientific analysis of criminal evi-

dence

crim'i-nol'o-gy (-näl'ə jē) *n.* the scientific study of crime and criminals — **crim'i-nol'o-gist** *n.*

crimp (krimp) *vt.* [*< MDu crimpen, to wrinkle*] 1 to press into narrow folds; pleat 2 to curl (hair) 3 to pinch together — *n.* 1 a crimping 2 anything crimped — **put a crimp in** [*Inf.*] to hinder

crim-son (krim'zən, -sən) *n.* [*< Ar qirmiz*] deep red — *adj.* deep-red — *vt., vi.* to make or become crimson

cringe (krinj) *vi.* **cringed, cring'ing** [*< OE cringan, to fall (in battle)*] 1 to draw back, crouch, etc., as when afraid; cower 2 to act timidly servile

crin-kle (krinj'kəl) *vi., vt.* -kled, -kling [*see prec.*] 1 to wrinkle 2 to rustle or crackle, as crushed paper — **crin'kly, -kli-er, -kli-est, adj.**

crin-o-line (krin'ə lin) *n.* [*Fr < It < crino, horsehair + lino, linen*] 1 a coarse, stiff cloth used as a lining in garments 2 HOOP SKIRT

crip-ple (krip'al) *n.* [*< OE creopan, to creep*] a disabled person: now somewhat offensive — *vt.* -pled, -pling 1 to lame 2 to disable; impair

cri-sis (kri'sis) *n., pl. -ses' (-sēz')* [*L < Gr krinein, to separate*] 1 the turning point of a disease for better or worse 2 a decisive or crucial time, etc. 3 a time of great danger, etc.

crisp (krisp) *adj.* [*< L crispus, curly*] 1 easily crumbled 2 fresh and firm 3 sharp and clear 4 fresh and invigorating 5 curled and wiry Also **crisp'y, -i-er, -i-est** — **crisp'ly adv.** — **crisp'ness n.**

criss-cross (kris'krôs') *n.* [*ME Christ-cros, Christ's cross*] a mark or pattern made of crossed lines — *adj.* marked by crossing lines — *vt.* to mark with crossing lines — *vi.* to move to and fro — *adv.* 1 crosswise 2 awry

cri-te-ri-on (kri tir'ē ən) *n., pl. -ri-a (-ē ə) or -ri-ons* [*< Gr kritēs, judge*] a standard, test, etc. by which a thing can be judged

crit-ic (krit'ik) *n.* [*< Gr krinein, discern*] 1 one who judges books, music, plays, etc., as for a newspaper 2 one who finds fault

crit'i-cal (-i kəl) *adj.* 1 tending to find fault 2 of critics or criticism 3 of or forming a crisis; decisive or dangerous — **crit'i-cal-ly adv.**

crit'i-cism' (-ə siz'am) *n.* 1 the act of making judgments, esp. of literary or artistic work 2 a review, article, etc. expressing such judgment 3 censure 4 the principles or methods of critics

crit'i-cize' (-ə siz') *vi., vt.* -cized', -ciz'ing 1 to analyze and judge as a critic 2 to find fault (with) — **crit'i-ciz'a-ble adj.** — **crit'i-ciz'er n.**

cri-tique (kri tēk') *n.* [*Fr*] a critical analysis or review — *vt., vi.* -tiqued', -tiqu'ing to criticize (a subject, art work, etc.)

crit-ter (krit'er) *n.* *dial. var. of CREATURE*

croak (krök) *vi.* [*echoic*] 1 to make a

deep, hoarse sound, as a frog does 2 [*Slang*] to die — *vt.* to utter in deep, hoarse tones — *n.* a croaking sound

Cro-at (krō'at', -ət) *n.* a person born or living in Croatia

Cro-a-tia (krō ā'shə) country in SE Europe: 21,829 sq. mi.; pop. 4,784,000 — **Cro-a'tian adj., n.**

cro-chet (krō shā') *n.* [*Fr, small hook*] needlework done with one hooked needle — *vi., vt.* -cheted' (-shād'), -chet'ing to do, or make by, crochet — **cro-chet'er n.**

crock (kräk) *n.* [*OE crocca*] an earthenware pot or jar — **crock'er-y n.**

crooked (kräkt) *adj.* [*< crock, to disable*] [*Slang*] drunk

croc-o-dile (kräk'ə dīl') *n.* [*< Gr krokodilos, lizard*] a large, lizardlike reptile of tropical streams, having a long, narrow head with massive jaws

cro-cus (krō'kəs) *n., pl. -cus-es or -ci' (-sī')* [*< Gr krokos, saffron*] a spring-blooming plant of the iris family, with a yellow, purple, or white flower

Croe-sus (krē'səs) flourished 6th c. B.C.; king noted for his great wealth

crois-sant (krə sän't'; *Fr* krwä sän') *n.* [*Fr, crescent*] a crescent-shaped, flaky bread roll

Cro-Mag-non (krō mag'nən) *adj.* [*after Cro-Magnon cave in France*] of a Stone Age type of tall human of the European continent

Crom-well (kräm'wel), **Ol-i-ver** (äl'ə vər) 1599-1658; Eng. revolutionary leader & head (Lord Protector) of England (1653-58)

crone (krōn) *n.* [*< MDu kronje, old ewe*] an ugly, withered old woman

cro-ny (krō'nē) *n., pl. -nies* [*< Gr chro-nos, time*] a close companion

crook (krook) *n.* [*< ON krōkr, hook*] 1 a hooked or curved staff, etc.; hook 2 a bend or curve 3 [*Inf.*] a swindler or thief — *vt., vi.* **crooked** (krookt), **crook'ing** to bend or curve

crook-ed (krookt; *for 2 & 3 krook'id*) *adj.* 1 having a crook 2 not straight; bent 3 dishonest — **crook'ed-ly adv.** — **crook'ed-ness n.**

crook'neck' *n.* a squash with a long, curved neck

croon (krōon) *vi., vt.* [*ME cronen*] 1 to sing or hum in a low, gentle tone 2 to sing (popular songs) softly and sentimentally — *n.* a low, gentle singing or humming — **croon'er n.**

crop (kräp) *n.* [*OE croppa, a cluster*] 1 a saclike part of a bird's gullet, in which food is stored before digestion 2 any agricultural product, growing or harvested 3 the yield of any product in one season or place 4 a group 5 the handle of a whip 6 a riding whip 7 hair cut close to the head — *vt.* **cropped, crop'ping** 1 to cut or bite off the tops or ends of 2 to cut (the hair, etc.) short — **crop out (or up)** to appear unexpectedly

crop'-dust'ing n. the spraying of crops with pesticides from an airplane — **crop'-dust' vi., vt.**

crop'per n. 1 one that crops 2 a sharecropper — **come a cropper** [*Inf.*] to come

to ruin; fail

cro·quet (krō kā') *n.* [Fr, dial. form of *crochet*, small hook] an outdoor game in which the players use mallets to drive a ball through hoops in the ground

cro·quette (krō ket') *n.* [Fr < *croquer*, to crunch] a small mass of meat, fish, etc. fried in deep fat

cro·sier (krō'zhər) *n.* [< OFr *croce*] the staff carried by a bishop or abbot

cross (krōs) *n.* [< L *crux*] 1 an upright post with a bar across it, on which the ancient Romans executed people 2 a representation of this as a symbol of the crucifixion of Jesus, hence of Christianity 3 any trouble or affliction 4 any design or mark made by two intersecting lines, bars, etc. 5 a crossing of varieties or breeds —*vt., vi.* 1 to make the sign of the cross (upon) 2 to place or lie across or crosswise 3 to intersect 4 to draw a line or lines across 5 to go or extend across 6 to meet and pass (each other) 7 to oppose 8 to interbreed (animals or plants) —*adj.* 1 lying or passing across 2 contrary; opposed 3 cranky; irritable 4 of mixed variety or breed —**cross off** (or **out**) to cancel as by drawing lines across —**cross someone's mind** to come suddenly to someone's mind —**cross someone's path** to meet someone —**cross'ly** *adv.*

cross'bar *n.* a bar, line, or stripe placed crosswise

cross'beam *n.* any transverse beam in a structure

cross'bones *n.* a representation of two bones placed across each other, under that of a skull, used to symbolize death or danger

cross'bow (-bō') *n.* a weapon consisting of a bow set transversely on a grooved wooden stock —**cross'bow'man** (-mən), *pl.* -men (-mən), *n.*

cross'breed *vt., vi.* -bred', -breed'ing **HYBRIDIZE** —*n.* **HYBRID** (sense 1)

cross'coun'try *adj., adv.* across open country or fields [*a cross-country race*]

cross'cut *saw* a saw designed to cut across the grain of wood

cross'-dress'ing *n.* the wearing of clothing worn by the opposite sex

cross'-ex-am'ine *vt., vi.* -ined, -in-ing *Law* to question (a witness called by the opposing side) in order to challenge the witness's previous testimony —**cross'-ex-am'i-na'tion** *n.*

cross'-eye *n.* an abnormal condition in which the eyes are turned toward each other —**cross'-eyed** *adj.*

cross'fire *n.* 1 lines of fire from two or more positions that cross 2 an energetic exchange, as by opposing forces or of opposing opinions

cross'hatch (-hach') *vt., vi.* to shade (a drawing) with two sets of parallel lines that cross each other

cross'ing *n.* 1 the act of passing across, interbreeding, etc. 2 an intersection, as of streets 3 a place where a street, etc.

may be crossed

cross'piece *n.* a piece lying across another

cross'-pol'li-nate *vt., vi.* -nat'ed, -nat'ing to transfer pollen from the anther of (a flower) to the stigma of (a genetically different flower) —**cross'-pol'li-na'tion** *n.*

cross'-pur'pose *n.* a contrary purpose —**at cross-purposes** having a misunderstanding as to each other's purposes

cross'-refer-ence *n.* a reference from one part of a book, etc. to another —*vt.* -enced, -enc-ing to provide (an index, etc.) with cross-references —**cross'-refer'** *vt., vi.*

cross'road *n.* 1 a road that crosses another 2 [usually *pl.*, often with *sing. v.*] a) the place where roads intersect b) any center of activity, etc. c) a time of important changes or major decisions

cross section 1 a) a cutting through something b) a piece so cut off c) a representation of this 2 a representative part of a whole —**cross'-sec'tion** *vt.*

cross'town *adj.* 1 going across a city [*a crosstown bus*] 2 on the other side of a city [*a crosstown rival*]

cross'walk *n.* a lane marked off for pedestrians to use in crossing a street

cross'wise *adv.* so as to cross: also **cross'ways**

cross'word *puzzle* an arrangement of numbered squares to be filled in with the letters of words, arranged vertically and horizontally, whose synonyms and definitions are given as clues

crotch (kräch) *n.* [ME *crucche*, crutch] 1 a forked place, as on a tree 2 the place where the legs fork from the human body or from the upper part of a pair of trousers

crotch·et (kräch'it) *n.* [ult. < OFr *croc*, a hook] a peculiar whim or stubborn notion —**crotch'et-y** *adj.*

crouch (krouch) *vi.* [< OFr *croc*, a hook] to stoop low with legs bent —*n.* a crouching position

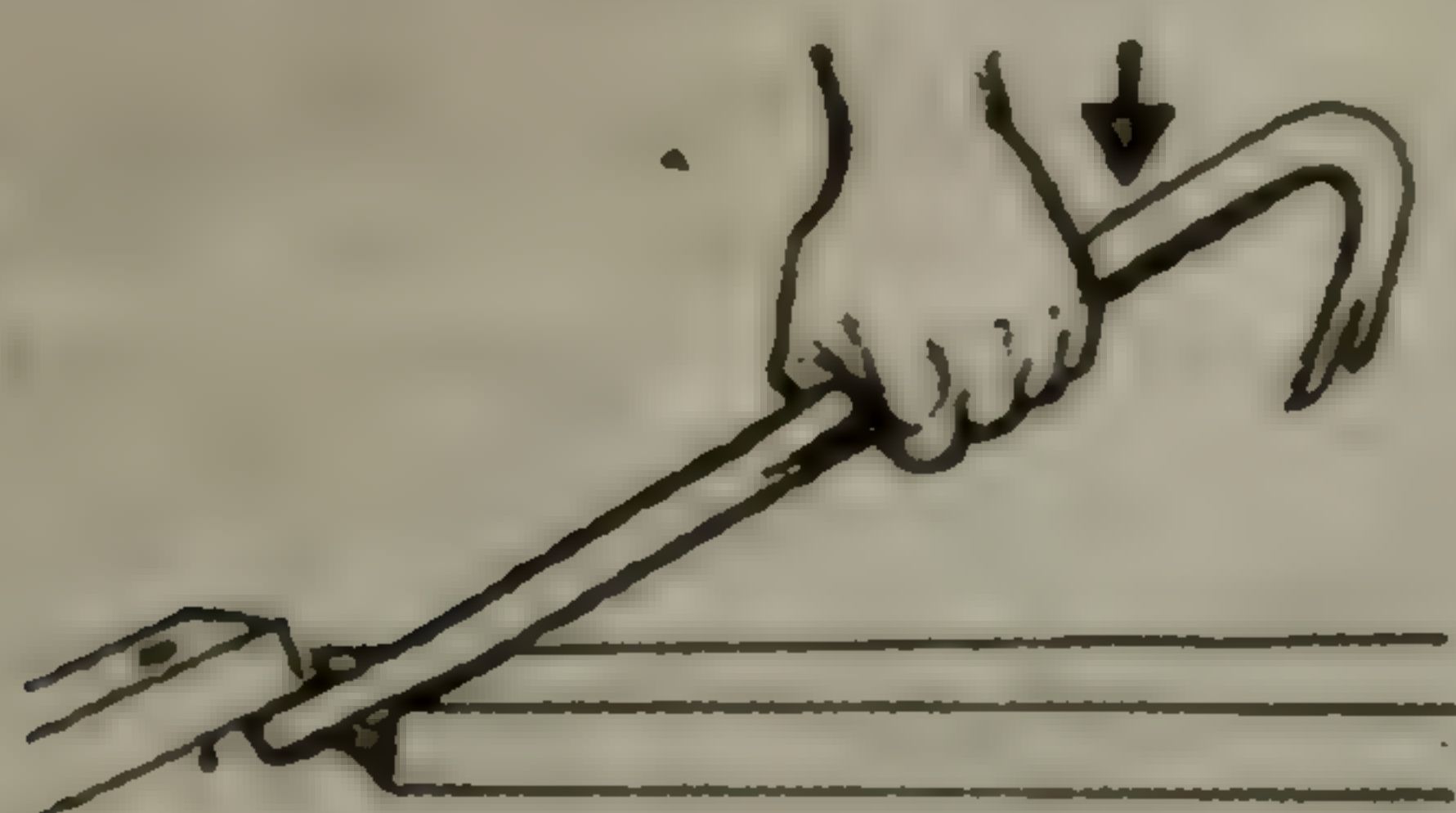
croup (krōp) *n.* [< obs. or dial. *croup*, speak hoarsely] an inflammation of the respiratory passages, with labored breathing, hoarse coughing, etc.

crou·pi·er (krōō'pē ā', -ər) *n.* [Fr] one in charge of a gambling table

crou·ton (krōō'tän', krōō tän') *n.* [Fr < *croûte*, a crust] a small, crisp piece of toasted bread served in soup or salads

crow¹ (krō) *n.* [OE *crawa*] a large, glossy-black bird with a harsh call —**as the crow flies** in a straight, direct line —**eat crow** [Inf.] to admit an error

crow² (krō) *vi.* crowed or, for 1, [Chiefly Brit.] crew (krōō), crowed, crow'ing [OE *crawan*] 1 to make the shrill cry of a rooster 2 to boast in triumph 3 to make a sound of pleasure —*n.* a crowing sound



CROWBAR

crow'bar *n.* a long metal bar used as a lever for prying, etc.

crowd (*kroud*) *vi.* [*< OE crúdan*] 1 to push one's way (*into*) 2 to throng —*vt.* 1 to press or push 2 to fill too full; cram —*n.* 1 a large number of people or things grouped closely 2 the common people; the masses 3 [*Inf.*] a set; clique —**crowd'ed** *adj.*

crow'foot *n., pl. -foots' or -feet'* a plant of the buttercup family, with leaves resembling a crow's foot

crown (*kroun*) *n.* [*< Gr korōnē, wreath*] 1 a wreath worn on the head in victory 2 a reward; honor 3 a monarch's head-dress 4 [*often C-*] a) the power of a monarch b) the monarch 5 a British coin equal to 25 (new) pence: no longer minted 6 the top part, as of the head 7 the highest quality, state, etc. of anything 8 a) the part of a tooth outside the gum b) an artificial substitute for this —*vt.* 1 to put a crown on 2 to make (a person) a monarch 3 to honor 4 to be the highest part of 5 to complete successfully

crown prince the male heir apparent to a throne —**crown princess**

crow's-foot (*krōz'foot'*) *n., pl. -feet'* any of the wrinkles that often develop at the outer corners of the eyes of adults

crow's'-nest' (*-nest'*) *n.* a lookout's platform high on a ship's mast

cro-zier (*krō'zhər*) *n.* CROSIER

CRT (*sē'är'tē'*) *n.* a cathode-ray tube

cru-cial (*krōō'shəl*) *adj.* [*< L crux, a cross*] decisive; critical —**cru'cial-ly** *adv.*

cru-ci-ble (*krōō'sə bəl*) *n.* [*ML crucibulum, lamp*] 1 a heat-resistant container for melting ores, metals, etc. 2 a severe trial

cru-ci-fix (*krōō'sə fiks'*) *n.* [*see CRUCIFY*] a cross with the figure of the crucified Jesus Christ on it

cru'ci-fix'ion (*-fik'shən*) *n.* 1 a crucifying 2 [*C-*] the crucifying of Jesus, or a representation of this

cru'ci-form' (*-fōrm'*) *adj.* cross-shaped

cru'ci-fy' (*-fī'*) *vt. -fied', -fy'ing* [*< L crux, a cross + figere, fasten*] 1 to execute by nailing or binding to a cross and leaving to die 2 to be very cruel to; torment

crude (*krōōd*) *adj.* **crud'er, crud'est** [*< L crudus, raw*] 1 in a raw or natural condition 2 lacking grace, tact, taste, etc. 3 roughly made —**crude'ly** *adv.* —**crude'ness** *n.* —**cru-di-ty** (*krōō'də tē*) *n.*

cru-di-tés (*krōō'də tā'*) *pl.n.* [*Fr, raw things*] raw vegetables cut up and served as hors d'oeuvres, usually with a dip or sauce

cru-el (*krōō'al*) *adj.* [*see CRUDE*] causing pain and suffering; pitiless —**cru'el-ly** *adv.* —**cru'el-ness** *n.* —**cru'el-ty**, *pl. -ties, n.*

cru-et (*krōō'it*) *n.* [*< OFr crue, earthen pot*] a small glass bottle, as for holding vinegar or oil for the table

cruise (*krōōz*) *vi.* **cruised, cruiss'ing** [*< Du kruisen, to cross*] 1 to sail or ride about from place to place, as for pleasure or in search of something 2 to move at the most efficient speed for sustained travel 3 to operate at a predetermined speed by use of a regulating mechanism (**cruise control**) —*vt.* to sail or journey over or about —*n.* a cruising voyage

cruise missile a long-range, jet-propelled winged missile that can be launched from an airplane, submarine, ship, etc. and guided to its target by remote control

cruis'er *n.* 1 anything that cruises, as a police car 2 a fast warship smaller than a battleship

crul-ler (*krul'ər*) *n.* [*Du < krullen, to curl*] a kind of twisted doughnut

crumb (*krum*) *n.* [*< OE cruma, a bit scraped from bread crust*] 1 a small piece broken off, as of bread 2 any bit or scrap [*crumbs of knowledge*] —**crumb-y** (*krum'ē*), *-i-er, -i-est, adj.*

crum-ble (*krum'bəl*) *vt. -bled, -bling* [*< prec.*] to break into crumbs —*vi.* to fall to pieces; disintegrate —**crum'bly** (*-blē*), *-bli-er, -bli-est, adj.*

crum-my (*krum'ē*) *adj. -mi-er, -mi-est* [*Slang*] 1 dirty, cheap, etc. 2 inferior, worthless, etc.

crum-pet (*krum'pit*) *n.* [*< OE crump, twisted*] an unsweetened batter cake baked on a griddle

crum-ple (*krum'pəl*) *vt. -pled, -pling* [*ult. < MDu crimpen, to wrinkle*] to crush together into wrinkles

crunch (*krunch*) *vi., vt.* [*echoic*] 1 to chew, press, grind, etc. with a noisy, crackling sound 2 [*Inf.*] to process (a large quantity of data) rapidly [*crunching numbers on a computer*] —*n.* 1 the act or sound of crunching 2 [*Slang*] a showdown or tight situation —**crunch'y**, *-i-er, -i-est, adj.*

crunch'time' *n.* [*Slang*] the tense, crucial phase of some activity

crup-per (*krup'ər, kroop'-*) *n.* [*< OFr crope, rump*] a leather strap attached to a saddle or harness and passed under a horse's tail

cru-sade (*krōō sād'*) *n.* [*ult. < L crux, a cross*] 1 [*sometimes C-*] any of the Christian military expeditions (11th-13th c.) to recover the Holy Land from the Muslims 2 a vigorous, concerted action for some cause, or against some abuse —*vi.* **-sad'ed, -sad'ing** to engage in a crusade —**cru-sad'er** *n.*

cruse (*krōōs, krōōz*) *n.* [*OE*] a small container for water, oil, etc.

crush (*krush*) *vt.* [*< OFr croisir, to crash, break*] 1 to press with force so as to break or put out of shape 2 to grind or pound into small bits 3 to subdue; overwhelm —*vi.* to become crushed —*n.* 1 a crushing; severe pressure 2 a crowded mass of people 3 [*Inf.*] an

infatuation —**crush'er** *n.*

crush'ing *adj.* 1 overwhelming 2 hurtful

crust (*krust*) *n.* [*< L crusta*] 1 the hard, outer part of bread 2 any dry, hard piece of bread 3 the pastry shell of a pie 4 any hard surface layer 5 [Slang] insolence 6 *Geol.* the solid outer layer of the earth —*vt., vi.* to cover or become covered with a crust —**crust'y, -i-er, -i-est, adj.**

crus·ta·cean (*krus tā'shən*) *n.* [see *prec.*] any of a class of arthropods, including shrimps, crabs, and lobsters, that have a hard outer shell

crutch (*kruch*) *n.* [*< OE crycce, staff*] 1 a device used by lame people as an aid in walking, typically a staff with a crosspiece on top that fits under the armpit 2 any prop or support

crux (*kruks*) *n., pl. crux'es or cru·ces* (*krōō'sēz'*) [*L, a cross*] 1 a difficult problem 2 the essential or deciding point

cry (*kri*) *vi.* **cried, cry'ing** [*< L quiritare, to wail*] 1 to utter a loud sound, as in pain or fright 2 to sob and shed tears; weep 3 to plead or clamor (*for*) 4 to show a great need (*for*) 5 to utter its characteristic call: said of an animal —*vt.* to utter loudly; shout —*n., pl. cries* 1 a shout 2 a plea 3 a fit of weeping 4 the characteristic call of an animal —*a far cry* a great distance or difference

cry'ba'by *n., pl. -bies* one who complains when failing to get his or her own way

cry·o·gen·ics (*kri'ō jen'iks, -ə-*) *n.* [*< Gr kryos, cold + -GEN + -ICS*] the science that deals with the production of very low temperatures and their effect on the properties of matter —**cry'o·gen'ic** *adj.*

cry'o·sur·ger·y *n.* [*< Gr kryos, cold + SURGERY*] surgery that destroys tissues by freezing them

crypt (*kript*) *n.* [*< Gr kryptein, to hide*] an underground vault, esp. one under a church, used for burial

crypt·tic (*krip'tik*) *adj.* 1 hidden or mysterious; baffling 2 obscure and curt in expression —**crypt'ti·cal·ly** *adv.*

crypto- [see *CRYPT*] *combining form* 1 secret or hidden [*cryptogram*] 2 being such secretly and not publicly [*a crypto-Fascist*]

crypt·to·gram (*krip'tō gram', -tə-*) *n.* [*prec. + -GRAM*] a message in code or cipher

crypt·tog·ra·phy (*krip tā'grə fē*) *n.* [*CRYPTO- + -GRAPHY*] the art of writing or deciphering messages in code —**crypt·tog'ra·pher** *n.*

crys·tal (*kris'təl*) *n.* [*< Gr krystallos, crystal, ice < kryos, frost*] 1 pure quartz 2 *a*) a very clear, brilliant glass *b*) articles of such glass, as goblets 3 anything clear like crystal, as the cover on a watch face 4 a solidified form of a substance having plane faces arranged in a symmetrical, three-dimensional pattern —*adj.* 1 of or made of crystal 2 like crystal; clear

crys'tal·line (*-tə lin*) *adj.* 1 made of crystal 2 like crystal; clear and trans-

parent

crys'tal·lize' (*-tə līz'*) *vi., vt.* **-lized', -liz'ing** 1 to become or cause to become crystalline 2 to take on or cause to take on a definite form —**crys'tal·li·za'tion** *n.*

CS *abbrev.* case(s)

Cs *Chem. symbol for cesium*

C-sec·tion (*sē'sek'shən*) *n.* [*Inf.*] CESAR-EAN (SECTION)

CST *abbrev.* Central Standard Time

ct *abbrev.* 1 cent 2 court

CT *abbrev.* 1 Central Time 2 Connecticut

CT scan [*c(omputerized) t(omography)*] 1 a diagnostic X-raying of soft tissues, using many single-plane X-rays (*tomograms*) to form the image 2 such an image —**CT scanner** —**CT scanning**

cu *abbrev.* cubic

Cu [*L cuprum*] *Chem. symbol for copper*

cub (*kub*) *n.* [*< ? Old Ir cuib, a whelp*] 1 a young fox, bear, lion, whale, etc. 2 an inexperienced or immature person

Cu·ba (*kyōō'bə*) country on an island in the West Indies, south of Florida: 42,803 sq. mi.; pop. 9,724,000 —**Cu'ban** *adj., n.*

cub·by·hole (*kub'ē hōl'*) *n.* [*< Brit dial. cub, little shed + HOLE*] a small, enclosed space: also **cub'by**

cube (*kyōōb*) *n.* [*< Gr kybos*] 1 a solid with six equal, square sides 2 the product obtained by multiplying a given number by its square [*the cube of 3 is 27*] —*vt.* **cubed, cub'ing** 1 to obtain the cube of (a number) 2 to cut or shape into cubes —**cub'er** *n.*

cube root the number of which a given number is the cube [*the cube root of 8 is 2*]

cu·bic (*kyōō'bik*) *adj.* 1 having the shape of a cube: also **cu'bi·cal** (*-bi kəl*) 2 having the volume of a cube whose length, width, and depth each measure the given unit [*a cubic foot*]

cu·bi·cle (*kyōō'bi kəl*) *n.* [*< L cubare, lie down*] a small compartment

cub·ism (*kyōōb'iz'əm*) *n.* a school of modern art characterized by the use of cubes and other geometric forms in abstract arrangements —**cub'ist** *n., adj.* —**cu·bis'tic** *adj.*

cu·bit (*kyōō'bit*) *n.* [*< L cubitum, elbow*] an ancient measure of length, about 18 to 22 inches

cuck·old (*kuk'əld*) *n.* [see *fol.*] a man whose wife has committed adultery —*vt.* to make a cuckold of —**cuck'old·ry** (*-rē*) *n.*

cuck·oo (*kōō'kōō'*) *n.* [*< OFr cucu, echoic*] 1 a gray-brown bird with a long, slender body: many species lay eggs in the nests of other birds 2 its call —*adj.* [Slang] crazy; foolish

cū·cum·ber (*kyōō'kum'bər*) *n.* [*< L cucumis*] a long, green-skinned fruit with firm, white flesh, used in salads or preserved as pickles

cud (*kud*) *n.* [*OE cudu*] a mouthful of swallowed food regurgitated from the first two parts of the stomach of cattle and other ruminants and chewed again

cud·dle (kud'1) *vt.* -dled, -dling [[early Modern Eng, make comfortable]] to hold lovingly in one's arms —*vi.* to lie close and snug; nestle —*n.* an embrace; hug

cud'dly (-lē) *adj.* -dli·er, -dli·est that invites cuddling: also **cud'dle·some**

cudg·el (kuj'əl) *n.* [[< OE *cycgel*]] a short, thick stick or club —*vt.* -eled or -elled, -el·ing or -el·ling to beat with a cudgel

cue¹ (kyoo) *n.* [[< *q, Q* (? for L *quando*, when) found in 16th-c. plays]] 1 a signal in dialogue, etc. for an actor's entrance or speech 2 any signal to do something 3 a hint —*vt.* cued, cu'ing or cue'ing to give a cue to

cue² (kyoo) *n.* [[var. of *QUEUE*]] a long, tapering rod used in billiards and pool to strike the white ball (cue ball)

Cuer·na·va·ca (kwer'nə vā'kə) city in SC Mexico: pop. 281,000

cuff (kuf) *n.* [[< ME *cuffe*, glove]] 1 a band or fold at the end of a sleeve 2 a turned-up fold at the bottom of a trouser leg 3 a slap —*vt.* to slap —**off the cuff** [Slang] in an offhand manner; extemporaneously —**on the cuff** [Slang] —on credit

cuff link a pair of linked buttons or any similar small device for fastening a shirt cuff

cui·sine (kwi zēn', kwē-) *n.* [[Fr < L *coquere*, to cook]] 1 a style of cooking or preparing food 2 the food prepared, as at a restaurant

cu·ke (kyook) *n.* [Inf.] short for CUCUMBER

cul·de·sac (kul'də sak') *n.*, *pl.* -sacs' [[Fr, bottom of a sack]] a dead-end street

cu·li·nar·y (kyoo'lə ner'ē, kul'ə-) *adj.* [[< L *culina*, kitchen]] of cooking

cull (kul) *vt.* [[< L *colligere*, collect]] 1 to pick out and discard 2 to select and gather —*n.* something rejected as not being up to standard

cul·mi·nate (kul'mə nāt') *vi.* -nat'ed, -nat'ing [[< L *culmen*, peak]] to reach its highest point or climax —**cul'mi·na'tion** *n.*

cu·lotte (koo'lāt') *n.* [[Fr < L *culus*, posterior]] [often *pl.*] a woman's garment consisting of trousers made full in the legs to resemble a skirt

cul·pa·ble (kul'pə bəl) *adj.* [[< L *culpa*, fault]] deserving blame —**cul'pa·bil'i·ty** *n.* —**cul'pa·bly** *adv.*

cul·prit (kul'prit) *n.* [[< Anglo-Fr *culpa·ble*, guilty + *prit*, ready (to prove)]] a person guilty of a crime or offense

cult (kult) *n.* [[< L *cultus*, care, cultivation]] 1 a system of religious worship or ritual 2 devoted attachment to a person, principle, etc. 3 a sect —**cult'ism** *n.* —**cult'ist** *n.*

cul·ti·vate (kul'tə vāt') *vt.* -vat'ed, -vat'ing [[< L *colere*, to till]] 1 to prepare (land) for growing crops; till 2 to loosen the soil and kill weeds around (plants) 3 to grow (plants) 4 to develop or

improve [*cultivate* your mind] 5 to seek to become familiar with —**cul'ti·va·ble** (-və bəl) or **cul'ti·vat'a·ble** *adj.* —**cul'ti·va'tor** *n.*

cul'ti·va'tion *n.* 1 the act of cultivating 2 refinement, or culture

cul·ture (kul'chər) *n.* [[see *CULT*]] 1 cultivation of the soil 2 a growth of bacteria, etc. in a prepared substance 3 improvement of the mind, manners, etc. 4 development by special training or care 5 the skills, arts, etc. of a given people in a given period; civilization —*vt.* -tured, -tur·ing to cultivate —**cul'tur·al** *adj.* —**cul'tur·al·ly** *adv.*

culture shock the alienation, confusion, etc. that may be experienced by someone encountering new surroundings, a different culture, etc.

cul·vert (kul'vərt) *n.* [[< ?]] a drain or conduit under a road or embankment

cum (kum, koom) *prep.* [[L]] with

cum·ber (kum'bər) *vt.* [[< OFr *combre*, a barrier]] to hinder; hamper

cum'ber·some *adj.* burdensome; unwieldy: also **cum'brous** (-brəs)

cum·in (kum'in, koo'min) *n.* [[< Gr *kymion*]] 1 an herb related to parsley and celery 2 its aromatic fruits, used as a seasoning

cum·mer·bund (kum'ər bund') *n.* [[< Ar-Pers *kamar*, loins + Pers *band*, band]] a wide sash worn as a waistband, esp. with men's formal dress

cu·mu·la·tive (kyoo'myə lə tiv', -lāt'iv) *adj.* [[< L *cumulus*, a heap]] increasing in effect, size, etc. by successive additions

cu·mu·lus (kyoo'myə ləs) *n.*, *pl.* -li' (-lī') [[L, a heap]] a bright, billowy type of cloud with a dark, flat base

cu·ne·i·form (kyoo nē'ə fōrm') *adj.* [[< L *cuneus*, a wedge + -FORM]] 1 wedge-shaped 2 designating the characters in ancient Assyrian and Babylonian inscriptions —*n.* cuneiform writing

cun·ning (kun'in) *adj.* [[< ME *cunnen*, know]] 1 sly; crafty 2 made with skill 3 pretty and delicate; cute —*n.* slyness; craftiness —**cun'ning·ly** *adv.*

cup (kup) *n.* [[< L *cupa*, tub]] 1 a small, open container for beverages, usually bowl-shaped and with a handle 2 a cup and its contents 3 a cupful 4 anything shaped like a cup —*vt.* cupped, cup'ping to shape like a cup

cup·board (kub'ərd) *n.* a closet or cabinet with shelves for cups, plates, food, etc.

cup'cake *n.* a small, round cake, often iced

cup'ful *n.*, *pl.* -fuls' as much as a cup will hold; specif., eight ounces

Cu·pid (kyoo'pid) *n.* 1 *Rom. Myth.* the god of love 2 [c-] a representation of Cupid as a naked, winged boy with bow and arrow

cu·pid·i·ty (kyoo pid'ə tē) *n.* [[< L *cupere*, to desire]] strong desire for wealth; avarice

cu-po-la (kyōō'pə lə) *n.* [It < L *cupa*, a tub] a small dome, etc. on a roof

cu-pro-nick-el (kyōō'prō nik'əl) *n.* an alloy of copper and nickel, used as in coins

cur (kər) *n.* [prob. < ON *kurra*, to growl] 1 a dog of mixed breed; mongrel 2 a contemptible person



CUPOLA

cu-rate (kyoor'it) *n.* [< L *cura*, care] a member of the clergy who assists a vicar or rector — **cu-ra-cy** (-ə sē), *pl.* -cies, *n.*

cu-ra-tive (kyoor'ət iv) *adj.* having the power to cure — *n.* a remedy

cu-ra-tor (kyōō rāt'ər, kyoor'āt'ər) *n.* [< L *curare*, take care of] a person in charge of a department or collection in a museum, etc. — **cu-ra-to-ri-al** (kyoor'ə tōr'ē əl) *adj.* — **cu-ra'tor-ship** *n.*

curb (kərb) *n.* [< L *curvus*, bent] 1 a chain or strap attached to a horse's bit, used to check the horse 2 anything that checks or restrains 3 a stone or concrete edging along a street — *vt.* to restrain; control

curb service service offered to customers in parked cars, as at some restaurants

curb'side' *adj.* at the curb or on the sidewalk adjacent to the street

curb'stone' *n.* any of the stones or a row of stones, making up a curb

curd (kərd) *n.* [< ME *crud*, coagulated substance] [often *pl.*] the coagulated part of soured milk, from which cheese is made

cur-dle (kərd'əl) *vt., vi.* -dled, -dling to form into curd; coagulate

cure (kyoor) *n.* [< L *cura*, care] 1 a healing or being healed 2 a remedy 3 a method of medical treatment — *vt.*

cured, cur'ing 1 to restore to health 2 to get rid of (an ailment, evil, etc.) 3 *a)* to preserve (meat), as by salting or smoking *b)* to process (tobacco, leather, etc.), as by drying or aging — **cur'a-ble** *adj.* — **cur'er** *n.*

cu-ré (kyōō rā') *n.* [Fr < L *cura*, care] in France, a parish priest

cure'-all' *n.* something supposed to cure all ailments or evils

cu-ret-tage (kyōō ret'ij, kyōō'rə tāzh') *n.* [Fr] the process of cleaning or scraping the walls of a body cavity with a spoon-like instrument

cur-few (kər'fyōō') *n.* [< OFr *couvrefeu*, lit., cover fire: orig. a nightly signal to cover fires and retire] a time in the evening beyond which children, etc. may not appear on the streets or in public places

Cu-ri-a (kyoor'ē ə) *n., pl.* -ri-ae' (-ē') [L] the official body governing the Roman Catholic Church under the authority of the pope

Cu-rie (kyōō rē', kyoor'ē), **Ma-rie** (mə rē')

1867-1934; Pol. chemist in France

cu-ri-o (kyoor'ē ō') *n., pl.* -os' [contr. of fol.] an unusual or rare article

cu-ri-os-i-ty (kyoor'ē əs'ə tē) *n., pl.* -ties 1 a desire to learn or know 2 inquisitiveness 3 anything curious, rare, etc.

cu-ri-ous (kyoor'ē əs) *adj.* [< L *curiosus*, careful] 1 eager to learn or know 2 prying or inquisitive 3 unusual; strange — **cu'ri-ous-ly** *adv.*

curl (kərl) *vt.* [< ME *crul*, curly] 1 to twist (esp. hair) into ringlets 2 to cause to bend around — *vi.* 1 to form curls 2 to form a spiral or curve — *n.* 1 a ringlet of hair 2 anything with a curled shape — **curl'er** *n.* — **curl'y, -i-er, -i-est, adj.** — **curl'i-ness** *n.*

cur-lew (kər'lōō', kərl'yōō') *n.* [echoic] a large, brownish wading bird with long legs

curl-i-cue (kər'li kyōō') *n.* [< CURLY + CUE²] a fancy curve, flourish, etc.

curl-ing (kər'liŋ) *n.* a game played on ice by two teams, in which a heavy disk of stone or iron is slid toward a target

cur-rant (kər'ənt) *n.* [ult. < *Corinth*, ancient Gr city] 1 a small, seedless raisin from the Mediterranean region 2 *a)* the sour berry of several species of hardy shrubs, made into jelly or jam *b)* any such shrub

cur-ren-cy (kər'ən sē) *n., pl.* -cies [see fol.] 1 circulation 2 the money in circulation in any country; often, specif., paper money 3 general use or acceptance

cur-rent (kər'ənt) *adj.* [< L *currere*, to run] 1 now going on; of the present time 2 circulating 3 commonly accepted; prevalent — *n.* 1 a flow of water or air in a definite direction 2 a general tendency or drift, as of opinion 3 the flow or rate of flow of electricity in a conductor — **cur'rent-ly** *adv.*

cur-ric-u-lum (kə rik'yōō ləm, -yə-) *n., pl.* -la (-lə) or -lums [L, course for racing] a course of study in a school — **cur-ric'u-lar** *adj.*

cur-ry¹ (kər'ē) *vt.* -ried, -ry-ing [< OFr *correier*, to put in order] 1 to use a currycomb on 2 to prepare (tanned leather) — **curry favor** to try to win favor as by flattery

cur-ry² (kər'ē) *n., pl.* -ries [Tamil *kari*, sauce] 1 a powder prepared from various spices, or a sauce made with this 2 a stew made with curry — *vt.* -ried, -ry-ing to prepare with curry

cur'ry-comb' *n.* a circular comb with teeth or ridges, for rubbing down and cleaning a horse's coat — *vt.* to use a currycomb on

curse (kərs) *n.* [OE *curs*] 1 a calling on God or the gods to bring evil on some person or thing 2 a profane or obscene oath 3 evil or injury that seems to come in answer to a curse — *vt.* **cursed, curs'ing** 1 to call evil down on 2 to swear at 3 to afflict — *vi.* to swear; blaspheme — **be cursed with** to suffer from

curs-ed (kər'sid, kurst) *adj.* 1 under a curse 2 deserving to be cursed; evil;

hateful

cur-sive (kər'siv) *adj.* [ult. < L *currere*, to run] designating writing in which the letters are joined

cur-sor (kər'sər) *n.* [L, runner] a movable indicator light on a computer video screen, marking the current position at which a character may be entered, changed, etc.

cur-so-ry (kər'sə rē) *adj.* [ult. < L *currere*, to run] hastily, often superficially, done —**cur'so-ri-ly** *adv.* —**cur'so-ri-ness** *n.*

curt (kərt) *adj.* [L *curtus*, short] brief, esp. to the point of rudeness —**curt'ly** *adv.* —**curt'ness** *n.*

cur-tail (kər tāl') *vt.* [L *curtus*, short] to cut short; reduce —**cur-tail'ment** *n.*

cur-tain (kərt'n) *n.* [LL *cortina*] a piece of cloth, etc. hung at a window, in front of a stage, etc. to decorate or conceal —*vt.* to provide with or shut off as with a curtain

curtain call 1 a call, usually by applause, for performers to return to the stage 2 such a return

curt-sy (kərt'sē) *n., pl. -sies* [var. of COURTESY] a woman's gesture of greeting, respect, etc. made by bending the knees and lowering the body slightly —*vi. -sied, -sy-ing* to make a curtsy Also *sp. curt'sey*

cur-va-ceous (kər vā'shəs) *adj.* [L *curvus*, curved] having a full, shapely figure: said of a woman

cur-va-ture (kər'və chər) *n.* 1 a curving or being curved 2 a curve

curve (kərv) *n.* [L *curvus*, bent] 1 a line having no straight part; bend with no angles 2 something shaped like, or moving in, a curve —*vt., vi. curved, curv'ing* 1 to form a curve by bending 2 to move in a curve —**curv'y, -i-er, -i-est, adj.**

cush-ion (koosh'an) *n.* [L *coxinum*] 1 a pillow or pad 2 a thing like this in shape or use 3 anything that absorbs shock —*vt.* to provide with a cushion

cush-y (koosh'ē) *adj. -i-er, -i-est* [L *khūsh*, pleasant] [Slang] easy; comfortable

cus-p (kusp) *n.* [L *cuspis*] a point or pointed end, as on the chewing surface of a tooth —**on the cusp** at a time of transition

cus-pid (kus'pid) *n.* [see prec.] a tooth with one cusp; canine tooth

cus-pi-dor (kus'pə dôr') *n.* [L *cuspir*, to spit] a spittoon

cuss (kus) *n., vt., vi.* [Inf.] CURSE

cus-tard (kus'tərd) *n.* [L *crusta*, crust] a mixture of eggs, milk, sugar, etc., boiled or baked

cus-to-di-an (kəs tō'dē ən) *n.* [L *custos*, a guard] 1 one who is responsible for the custody or care of something; caretaker 2 a person responsible for the maintenance of a building

cus-to-dy (kus'tə dē) *n., pl. -dies* [L *custos*, a guard] a guarding or keeping safe; care; guardianship —**in custody** under arrest —**cus-to'di-al** (-tō'dē əl)

adj.

cus-tom (kus'təm) *n.* [L *com-*, intens. + *suere*, be accustomed] 1 a usual practice; habit 2 a) a social practice carried on by tradition b) such practices collectively 3 [pl.] duties or taxes imposed on imported goods 4 the regular patronage of a business —*adj.* 1 made or done to order 2 making things to order

cus'tom-ary *adj.* in keeping with custom; usual; habitual —**cus'tom-ar'i-ly** *adv.*

cus'tom-built *adj.* built to order, to the customer's specifications

cus'tom-er *n.* a person who buys, esp. one who buys regularly

cus'tom-house *n.* an office where customs or duties are paid

cus'tom-ize *vt. -ized, -iz'ing* to make according to individual specifications

cus'tom-made *adj.* made to order, to the customer's specifications

cut (kut) *vt. cut, cut'ting* [ME *cutten*] 1 to make an opening in with a sharp-edged instrument; gash 2 to pierce sharply so as to hurt 3 to have (a new tooth) grow through the gum 4 to divide into parts with a sharp-edged instrument; sever 5 to intersect; divide 6 to hew 7 to mow or reap 8 to reduce; curtail 9 to trim; pare 10 to divide (a pack of cards) 11 to make or do as by cutting 12 to hit (a ball) so that it spins 13 [Inf.] to pretend not to recognize (a person) 14 [Inf.] to stay away from (a school class, etc.) without being excused 15 [Slang] to stop —*vi.* 1 to pierce, sever, gash, etc. 2 to take cutting [pine cuts easily] 3 to go (across or through) 4 to change direction suddenly 5 to make a sudden shift, as from one scene to another in a film 6 [Inf.] to swing a bat, etc. at a ball —*adj.* 1 that has been cut 2 made or formed by cutting —*n.* 1 a cutting or being cut 2 a stroke or opening made by a sharp-edged instrument 3 a piece cut off, as of meat 4 a reduction 5 a passage or channel cut out 6 the style in which a thing is cut 7 an act, remark, etc. that hurts one's feelings 8 a block or plate engraved for printing, or the impression from this 9 [Inf.] an unauthorized absence from school, etc. 10 [Inf.] a share, as of profits —**cut and dried** 1 arranged beforehand 2 lifeless; dull —**cut down** to reduce; lessen —**cut it out** [Inf.] to stop doing what one is doing —**cut off** 1 to sever 2 to stop abruptly; shut off —**cut out** [Inf.] fit or suited —**cut up** 1 to cut into pieces 2 [Slang] to clown, joke, etc.

cu-ta-ne-ous (kyōō tā'nē əs) *adj.* [L *cutis*, skin] of or on the skin

cut'a-way *n.* a man's formal coat cut so as to curve back to the tails

cut'back *n.* a reduction or discontinuance, as of production

cute (kyōōt) *adj. cut'er, cut'est* [L *acute*] [Inf.] 1 clever; shrewd 2 pretty or attractive, esp. in a dainty way —**cute'ly** *adv.* —**cute'ness** *n.*

cute-sy or **cute-sie** (kyōōt'sē) *adj. -si-er, -si-est* [Inf.] cute in an affected way

cut-i-cle (kyōōt'i kəl) *n.* [L *cutis*, skin] 1 the outer layer of the skin 2 hard-

ened skin, as at the base and sides of a fingernail

cut-lass (kut'lās) *n.* [*< L culter, plow-share*] a short, thick, curved sword

cut-ler-y (kut'lər ē) *n.* [*< L culter, plow-share*] 1 cutting implements, as knives and scissors 2 implements used in preparing and eating food

cut-let (kut'lit) *n.* [*< L costa, rib*] 1 a small slice of meat from the ribs or leg 2 a small, flat croquette of chopped meat or fish

cut-off *n.* a road, etc. that is a shortcut

cut-rate *adj.* selling at a lower price

cut-ter (kut'ər) *n.* 1 a person or thing that cuts 2 a small, swift boat or ship

cut-throat *n.* a murderer — *adj.* 1 murderous 2 merciless; ruthless

cut-ting (kut'in) *n.* a shoot cut away from a plant for rooting or grafting — *adj.* 1 that cuts; sharp 2 chilling or piercing 3 sarcastic; wounding — **cut-ting-ly** *adv.*

cutting edge the leading or most advanced position; vanguard

cut-tle-fish (kut'l fish') *n., pl. -fish' or (for different species) -fish'es* [OE *cudele*] a sea mollusk with eight arms and two tentacles and a hard internal shell (**cut-tle-bone'**)

cwt *abbrev.* hundredweight

-cy (sē) [*< Gr -kia*] *suffix* 1 quality, condition, or fact of being [*idiocy*] 2 position, rank, or office of [*captaincy*]

cy-a-nide (sī'ə nīd') *n.* a white, crystalline compound that is extremely poisonous

cy-ber-net-ics (sī'bər net'iks) *n.* [*< Gr kybernan, to steer + -ICS*] the comparative study of human control systems, as the brain, and complex electronic systems — **cy-ber-net'ic** *adj.*

cy-ber-punk (sī'bər punk') *n.* [*cyber-* (see prec.) + PUNK² (*n.* 2)] science fiction describing a future filled with violence, computers, and drugs

cy'ber-space' (-spās') *n.* the electronic system of linked computer networks, etc., thought of as an unlimited environment for accessing information, communicating, etc.

cy-cla-men (sī'klə mən) *n.* [*< Gr*] a plant of the primrose family with heart-shaped leaves

cy-cle (sī'kəl) *n.* [*< Gr kyklos, a circle*] 1 *a)* a period within which a round of regularly recurring events is completed *b)* a complete set of such events 2 a series of poems or songs on one theme 3 a bicycle, motorcycle, etc. 4 *Elec.* one complete period of the reversal of an alternating current from positive to negative and back again — *vi.* -cled, -cling to ride a bicycle, etc.

cy-cli-cal (sik'li kəl) *adj.* of, or having the nature of, a cycle; occurring in cycles

cy-clist (sik'list, sī'kə list) *n.* one who rides a bicycle, motorcycle, etc.

cyclo- [*< Gr kyklos, a circle*] *combining form* of a circle or wheel; circular

cy-clom-e-ter (sī klām'ət ər) *n.* [*prec. + -METER*] an instrument that records the revolutions of a wheel for measuring distance traveled

cy-clone (sī'klōn') *n.* [*< Gr kyklōma, wheel*] a storm with strong winds rotating about a center of low pressure

cyclone fence a heavy-duty fence of interwoven steel links

Cy-clops (sī'kläps') *n., pl. Cy-clo-pes* (sī klō'pēz') *Gr. Myth.* any of a race of one-eyed giants

cy-clo-tron (sī'klō trān', -klə-) *n.* a circular apparatus for giving high energy to positive ions, as protons, used in atomic research

cyg-net (sig'net, -nit) *n.* [*< Gr kyknos, swan*] a young swan

cyl-in-der (sil'an dər) *n.* [*< Gr kylindein, to roll*] 1 a solid, tubular figure consisting of two equal, parallel, circular bases joined by a smooth, continuous surface 2 anything with this shape; specif., *a)* the turning part of a revolver *b)* the piston chamber of an engine — **cy-lin-dri-cal** (sə lin'dri kəl) *adj.*



CYMBALS

cym-bal (sim'bəl) *n.* [*< Gr kymbē, hollow of a vessel*] *Music* a circular brass plate that makes a sharp, ringing sound when hit — **cym'bal-ist** *n.*

cyn-ic (sin'ik) *n.* [*< Gr kynikos, doglike*] a cynical person

cyn'i-cal (-i kəl) *adj.* 1 denying the sincerity of people's motives and actions 2 sarcastic, sneering, etc. — **cyn'i-cal-ly** *adv.*

cyn'i-cism' (-ə siz'əm) *n.* 1 the attitude or beliefs of a cynic 2 a cynical remark, idea, etc.

cy-no-sure (sī'nə shoər', sin'ə-) *n.* [*< Gr kynosoura, dog's tail*] a center of attention or interest

cy-pher (sī'fər) *n., vi. Brit. sp. of CIPHER*

cy-press (sī'prəs) *n.* [*< Gr kyparissos*] 1 an evergreen tree with cones and dark foliage 2 its wood

Cy-prus (sī'prəs) country on an island at the E end of the Mediterranean: 3,572 sq. mi.; pop. 714,000 — **Cyp-ri-ot** (sip'rē ət) *adj., n.*

cyst (sist) *n.* [*< Gr kystis, sac*] a saclike structure in plants or animals, esp. one filled with diseased matter — **cyst'ic** *adj.*

cystic fibrosis a children's disease marked by fibrosis of the pancreas and by frequent respiratory infections

cy-tol-o-gy (sī täl'ə jē) *n.* [*< Gr kytos, a hollow + -LOGY*] the branch of biology dealing with cells — **cy-tol'o-gist** *n.*

cy·to·plasm (sīt'ō plaz'am) *n.* [*< Gr kytos, a hollow + plasma, something molded*] the protoplasm of a cell, outside the nucleus

cy·to·sine (sīt'ō sēn') *n.* [*Ger zytosin*] one of the four bases that combine to form DNA

czar (zär) *n.* [*Russ < L Caesar*] 1 the title of any of the former emperors of Russia 2 a person with wide-ranging power —**cza·ri·na** (zä rē'nə) *fem.n.*

Czech (chek) *n.* 1 a member of a Slavic people of central Europe 2 the West

Slavic language of the Czechs 3 loosely, a person born or living in Czechoslovakia 4 a person born or living in the Czech Republic —**adj.** of the Czech Republic, its people, or their language

Czech·o·slo·va·ki·a (chek'ə slō vā'kē ə) former country in central Europe: divided (1993) into Czech Republic and Slovakia —**Czech'o·slo'vak** or **Czech'o·slo·vak'i·an** *adj., n.*

Czech Republic country in central Europe: formerly the W republic of Czechoslovakia: 30,450 sq. mi.; pop. 10,324,000

D

d¹ or **D** (dē) *n., pl. d's, D's* the fourth letter of the English alphabet

d² *abbrev.* 1 day(s) 2 degree 3 diameter 4 died 5 [*L denarii*] penny; pence

D¹ (dē) *n.* 1 a Roman numeral for 500 2 a grade for below-average work 3 *Music* the second tone in the scale of C major

D² *abbrev.* 1 December 2 Democrat

-'d *contr.* 1 had or would: a shortened form used in contractions [*I'd seen; they'd see*] 2 *old sp. of -ED* [*foster'd*]

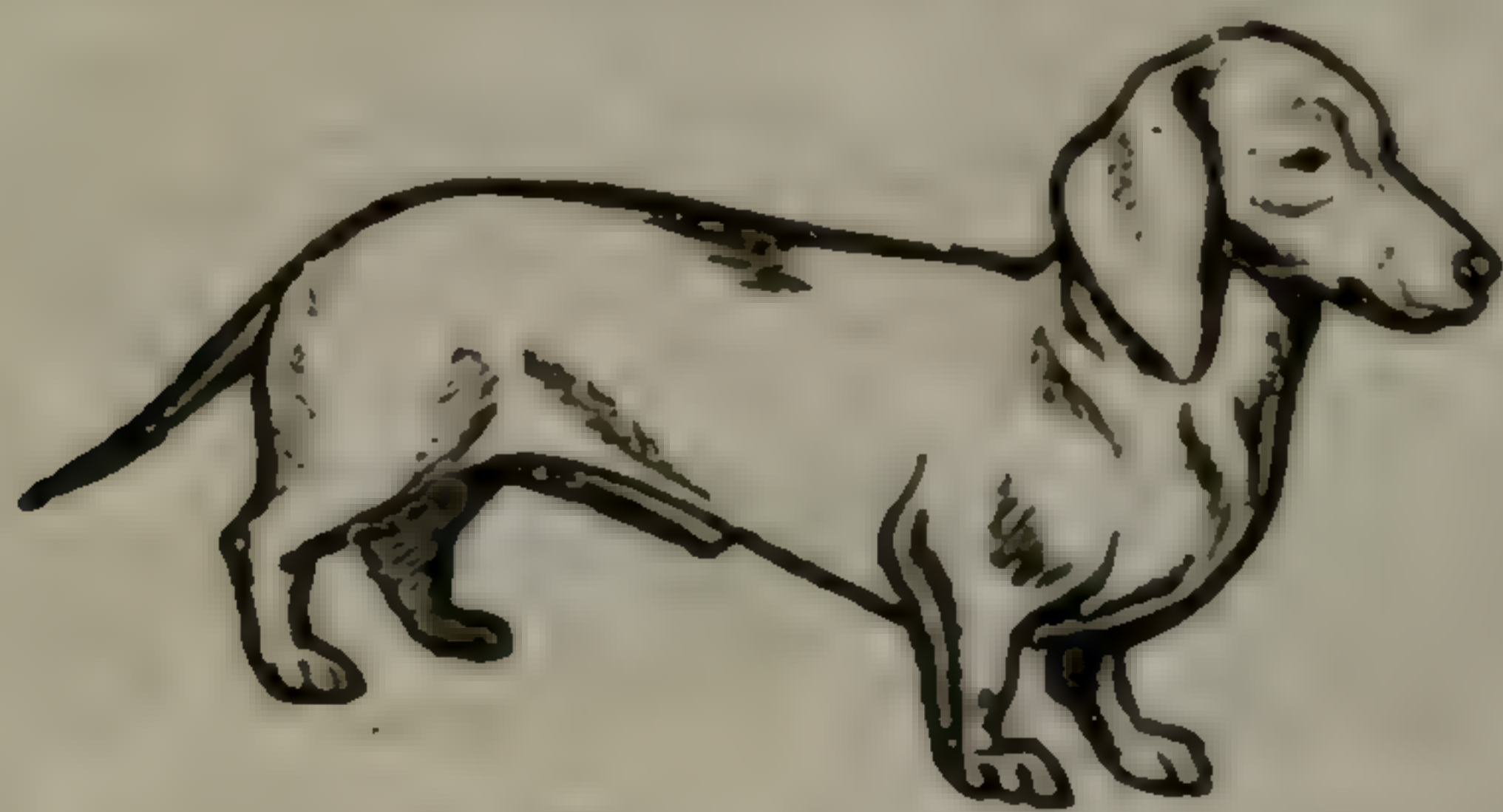
DA or **D.A.** *abbrev.* District Attorney

dab (dab) *vt., vi.* **dabbed, dab'bing** [*ME dabbēn, to strike*] 1 to touch lightly and quickly; pat 2 to put on (paint, etc.) with light, quick strokes —*n.* 1 a tap; pat 2 a soft or moist bit of something

dab·ble (dab'əl) *vi.* **-bled, -bling** [*Du dabbelen, freq. of MDu dabbēn, to strike, dab*] 1 to play, dip, or paddle in water 2 to do something superficially: with *in* or *at*

Dac·ca (dä'kā) *former sp. of DHAKA*

dace (dās) *n., pl. dace or daces* a small freshwater fish related to the carp



DACHSHUND

dachs·hund (däks'hoont') *n.* [*Ger < dachs, badger + hund, dog*] a small dog with a long body, short legs, and drooping ears

Da·cron (dä'krän', dak'rän') *trademark* for a synthetic wrinkle-resistant fabric —*n.* [*also d-*] this fabric

dac·tyl (dak'təl) *n.* [*< Gr daktylos, finger*] a metrical foot consisting of one accented syllable followed by two unaccented ones —**dac·tyl'ic** (-til'ik) *adj.*

dad (dad) *n.* [*< child's cry dada*] [*Inf.*] father: also **dad·dy** (dad'ē), *pl. -dies*

daddy long'legs' an arachnid with

long legs

da·do (dā'dō) *n., pl. -does* [*< L datum, a die*] 1 the part of a pedestal between the cap and the base 2 the lower part of a wall if decorated differently from the upper part 3 a rectangular groove cut in a board, used in forming a joint

daf·fo·dil (daf'ə dil') *n.* [*< Gr asphodelos*] a narcissus with long leaves and yellow flowers

daf·fy (daf'ē) *adj.* **-fi·er, -fi·est** [*< ME dafte, daft*] [*Inf.*] crazy; silly —**daf'fi·ness** *n.*

daft (daft) *adj.* [*< OE (ge)dæfte, mild*] 1 silly 2 insane

dag·ger (dag'ər) *n.* [*< Prov daga*] 1 a weapon with a short, pointed blade, used for stabbing 2 *Printing* a reference mark (†)

da·guerre·o·type (də ger'ō tīp') *n.* [*after L. J. M. Daguerre, 19th-c. Fr inventor*] an early kind of photograph made on a chemically treated plate —*vt.* **-typed', -typ'ing** to photograph by this method

dahl·ia (dal'yə, däl'-) *n.* [*after A. Dahl, 18th-c. Swed botanist*] a perennial plant with large, showy flowers

dai·li·ness (dā'lē nəs) *n.* the ordinary, routine aspects of a way of life

dai·ly (dā'lē) *adj.* done, happening, or published every (week)day —*n., pl. -lies* a daily newspaper —*adv.* every day

daily double a bet or betting procedure in which winning depends on choosing both winners in two specified races

dain·ty (dān'tē) *n., pl. -ties* [*< OFr deintē*] a delicacy —*adj.* **-ti·er, -ti·est** 1 delicious and choice 2 delicately pretty 3 *a*) of refined taste; fastidious *b*) squeamish —**dain'ti·ly** *adv.* —**dain'ti·ness** *n.*

dai·qui·ri (dak'ər ē) *n.* [*after Daiquirí, Cuban village*] a cocktail made of rum, sugar, and lime or lemon juice

dair·y (der'ē) *n., pl. -ies* [*ME daie, dairy-maid*] 1 a building or room where milk and cream are made into butter and cheese, etc. 2 a farm that produces, or a store that sells, milk and milk products —*adj.* of milk and milk products —**dair'y·man** (-mən), *pl. -men, n.*

dair'y·ing *n.* the business of producing

or selling dairy products

da·is (dā'is) *n.*, *pl.* **da'is·es** [*< ML discus, table*] a raised platform, as for a speaker

dai·sy (dā'zē) *n.*, *pl.* **-sies** [*< OE dæges eage, day's eye*] a plant of the composite family, bearing flowers with white rays around a yellow disk

Da·lai La·ma (dā'lī lā'mə) the high priest of Lamaism

dale (dāl) *n.* [*OE dæl*] a valley

Dal·las (dal'əs) city in NE Texas: pop. 1,008,000



DALMATIAN

dal·ly (dal'ē) *vi.* **-lied, -ly·ing** [*< OFr dalier, to trifle*] 1 to flirt 2 to deal carelessly (*with*); toy 3 to waste time; loiter —**dal·liance** (dal'yəns, -ē əns) *n.*

Dal·ma·tian (dal mā'shən) *n.* a large, short-haired dog with dark spots on a white coat

dam¹ (dam) *n.* [*ME*] a barrier built to hold back flowing water —**vt. dammed, dam'ing** 1 to build a dam in 2 to keep back or confine

dam² (dam) *n.* [*see DAME*] the female parent of any four-legged animal

dam·age (dam'ij) *n.* [*< L damnum*] 1 injury or harm resulting in a loss 2 [*pl.*] Law money compensating for injury, loss, etc. —**vt. -aged, -ag·ing** to do damage to —**dam'age·a·ble** *adj.*

Da·mas·cus (də mas'kəs) capital of Syria: pop. 1,497,000

dam·ask (dam'əsk) *n.* [*after prec.*] 1 a reversible fabric in figured weave, used for table linen, etc. 2 deep pink or rose —**adj.** 1 of or like damask 2 deep-pink or rose

dame (dām) *n.* [*< L domina, lady*] 1 [*D-*] in Great Britain, a woman's title of honor 2 [*Slang*] any woman

damn (dam) **vt. damned, damn'ing** [*< L damnare, condemn*] 1 to condemn to an unhappy fate 2 *Theol.* to condemn to hell 3 to condemn as bad, inferior, etc. 4 to swear at by saying "damn" — *n.* the saying of "damn" as a curse — *adj., adv.* [*Inf.*] *short for DAMNED* — *interj.* used to express anger, etc.

dam·na·ble (dam'nə bəl) *adj.* 1 deserving damnation 2 deserving to be sworn at —**dam'na·bly** *adv.*

dam·na'tion (-nā'shən) *n.* a damning or being damned —*interj.* used to express anger, etc.

damned (damd) *adj.* 1 condemned, as to hell 2 [*Inf.*] deserving cursing; outrageous —*adv.* [*Inf.*] very

Dam·o·cles (dam'ə klēz') *n.* *Classical*

Legend a man whose king seated him under a sword hanging by a hair to show him the perils of a ruler's life

damp (damp) *n.* [*MDu, vapor*] a slight wetness —**adj.** somewhat moist or wet; humid —**vt.** 1 to bank (a fire): usually with *down* 2 to check or reduce — **damp'ness** *n.*

damp'·dry' **vt. -dried', -dry'ing** to dry (laundry) so that some moisture is retained —**adj.** designating or of laundry so treated

damp·en (dam'pən) **vt.** 1 to make damp; moisten 2 to deaden, depress, or reduce. —**damp'en·er** *n.*

damp·er (dam'pər) *n.* [*see DAMP*] 1 anything that deadens or depresses 2 a valve in a flue to control the draft 3 a device to check vibration in piano strings

dam·sel (dam'zəl) *n.* [*see DAME*] [*Old-fashioned*] a girl; maiden

dam'sel·fly' *n.*, *pl.* **-flies'** a slow-flying, brightly colored dragonfly

dam·son (dam'zən) *n.* [*ult. < Damasce-nus, of DAMASCUS*] a small, purple plum

Dan *abbrev.* Danish

dance (dans) *vi.* **danced, danc'ing** [*< OFr danser*] 1 to move the body and feet in rhythm, ordinarily to music 2 to move lightly, rapidly, gaily, etc. —**vt.** 1 to perform (a dance) 2 to cause to dance —*n.* 1 rhythmic movement, ordinarily to music 2 a particular kind of dance. 3 the art of dancing 4 a party for dancing 5 a piece of music for dancing 6 rapid movement —**danc'er** *n.*

D and C dilation (of the cervix) and curettage (of the uterus)

dan·de·li·on (dan'də li'ən) *n.* [*< OFr dent, tooth + de, of + lion, lion*] a common weed with yellow flowers

dan·der (dan'dər) *n.* [*< ?*] 1 tiny, allergenic particles from fur, etc. 2 [*Inf.*] anger or temper

dan·dle (dan'dəl) **vt. -dled, -dling** [*< ?*] to move (a child) up and down on the knee or in the arms

dan·druff (dan'drəf) *n.* [*< earlier dan-dro + dial. hurf, scab*] little scales of dead skin on the scalp

dan·dy (dan'dē) *n.*, *pl.* **-dies** [*< ?*] 1 a man overly attentive to his clothes and appearance 2 [*Inf.*] something very good —**adj. -di·er, -di·est** [*Inf.*] very good; fine

Dane (dān) *n.* a person born or living in Denmark

dan·ger (dān'jər) *n.* [*ult. < L dominus, a master*] 1 liability to injury, damage, loss, etc.; peril 2 a thing that may cause injury, pain, etc.

dan'ger·ous *adj.* full of danger; unsafe; perilous —**dan'ger·ous·ly** *adv.*

dan·gle (dan'gəl) *vi.* **-gled, -gling** [*< Scand*] to hang loosely so as to swing back and forth —**vt.** to cause to dangle —**dan'gler** *n.*

Dan·iel (dan'yəl) *n.* *Bible* a Hebrew prophet whose faith saved him in the lions' den

Dan-ish (dān'ish) *adj.* of Denmark or its people, language, etc. —*n.* 1 the language of the Danes 2 [*also d-*] (a) rich, flaky pastry filled with fruit, cheese, etc.: in full Danish pastry

dank (dank) *adj.* [ME] disagreeably damp —**dank'ly** *adv.* —**dank'ness** *n.*

dan-seuse (dān sooz') *fem.n.* [Fr] a female ballet dancer —**dan-seur'** (-sur') *masc.n.*

Dan-te (Alighieri) (dān'tā, dan'tē) 1265-1321; It. poet

Dan-ube (dan'yōb) river in S Europe, flowing from S Germany into the Black Sea

dap-per (dap'ər) *adj.* [MDu, nimble] 1 small and active 2 trim, neat, or dressed stylishly

dap-ple (dap'al) *adj.* [< ON *depill*, a spot] marked with spots; mottled: also **dap'pled** —*vt.* -pled, -pling to cover with spots

Dar-da-nelles (där'də nelz') strait separating the Balkan Peninsula from Asia Minor

dare (der) *vt., vi.* dared, **dar'ing** [OE *durran*] 1 to have enough courage for (some act) 2 to challenge (someone) to do something —*n.* a challenge —**dare say** to think probable —**dar'er** *n.*

dare'dev'il (-dev'al) *adj.* bold and reckless —*n.* 1 a bold, reckless person 2 one who performs dangerous stunts

dar'ing *adj.* fearless; bold —*n.* bold courage —**dar'ing-ly** *adv.*

dark (därk) *adj.* [< OE *deorc*] 1 entirely or partly without light 2 *a)* almost black *b)* not light in color 3 hidden; secret 4 gloomy 5 evil; sinister 6 ignorant —*n.* 1 the state of being dark 2 night or nightfall —**in the dark** uninformed; ignorant —**dark'ly** *adv.* —**dark'ness** *n.*

Dark Ages the Middle Ages, esp. the earlier part

dark-en (där'kən) *vt., vi.* to make or become dark or darker —**dark'en-er** *n.*

dark horse a little-known contestant thought unlikely to win

dark'room' *n.* a darkened room for developing photographs

dar-ling (där'lin) *n.* [OE *deorling*] a person much loved by another —*adj.* 1 very dear; beloved 2 [Inf.] cute or attractive

darn¹ (därn) *vt., vi.* [< Fr dial. *darner*] to mend (cloth) by sewing a network of stitches across the gap —*n.* a darned place in fabric

darn² (därn) *vt., n., adj., adv., interj.* [Inf.] damn: a euphemism —**darned** *adj., adv.*

dart (därt) *n.* [< OFr] 1 a small, pointed missile for throwing or shooting 2 a sudden movement 3 a short, tapered seam 4 [*pl., with sing. v.*] a game in which darts (see sense 1) are thrown at a target (**dart'board'**) —*vt., vi.* to send out or move suddenly and fast

Dar-von (där'vān') trademark for an analgesic drug containing a narcotic painkiller

Dar-win (där'win), Charles (Robert) (chärلز) 1809-82; Eng. naturalist: originated theory of evolution —**Dar-win'i-an** *adj., n.* —**Dar'win-ism'** *n.*

dash (dash) *vt.* [< Scand] 1 to throw so as to break; smash 2 to throw or thrust (*away, down, etc.*) 3 to splash 4 to destroy, frustrate —*vi.* 1 to strike violently (*against*) 2 to rush —*n.* 1 a splash 2 a bit of something added [*a dash of salt*] 3 a rush 4 a short, fast race 5 spirit; vigor 6 the mark of punctuation (— or —) used to indicate a break, omission, etc. —**dash off** to do, write, etc. hastily —**dash'er** *n.*

dash'board' *n.* a panel with controls and gauges, as in an automobile

da-shi-ki (dä shē'kē) *n.* a loosefitting, brightly colored robe or tunic, modeled after an African tribal garment

dash'ing *adj.* 1 full of dash or spirit; lively 2 showy; striking; stylish —**dash'ing-ly** *adv.*

das-tard-ly (das'tərd lē) *adj.* [< ME *das-tard*, a craven] mean, cowardly, etc.

dat *abbrev. dative*

da-ta (dāt'ə, dat'ə) *pl.n.* [*now usually with sing. v.*] 1 facts or figures from which conclusions can be drawn 2 information in a form suitable for computer storage, etc.

da'ta-base' *n.* a mass of data, as in a computer, arranged for rapid expansion, updating, and retrieval: also **data base**

data processing the handling of large amounts of information, esp. by a computer —**data processor**

date¹ (dāt) *n.* [< L *dare*, give] 1 the time at which a thing happens, was made, etc. 2 the day of the month 3 [*pl.*] a person's birth and death dates 4 *a)* an appointment *b)* a romantic social engagement with a person *c)* this person —*vt.* **dat'ed**, **dat'ing** 1 to mark (a letter, etc.) with a date 2 to find out or give the date of 3 to make seem old-fashioned 4 to have romantic social engagements with —*vi.* 1 to belong to a definite period in the past: usually with *from* 2 to have romantic social engagements —**to date** up to now —**dat'er** *n.*

date² (dāt) *n.* [< Gr *daktylos*, a date] the sweet, fleshy fruit of a desert palm tree (**date palm**)

date'book' *n.* a notebook for entering appointments, etc.

date'line' *n.* the date and place of writing or issue, as given in a line in a newspaper story, etc.

da-tive (dāt'iv) *n.* [< L *dativus*, relating to giving] *Gram.* the case of the indirect object of a verb

da-tum (dāt'əm, dat'-) *n.* [L, what is given] *sing. of DATA*

daub (dōb) *vt., vi.* [< L *de-*, intens. + *albus*, white] 1 to cover or smear with sticky, soft matter 2 to paint badly —*n.* 1 anything daubed on 2 a daubing stroke —**daub'er** *n.*

daugh-ter (dôt'ər) *n.* [< OE *dohtor*] 1 a girl or woman as she is related to either or both parents 2 a female descendant —**daugh'ter-ly** *adj.*

daugh'ter-in-law' *n., pl.* **daugh'ters-in-**

law' the wife of one's son

Dau·mier (dō myā'), **Ho·no·ré** (ô nô rā') 1808-79; Fr. painter

daunt (dônt) *vt.* [*< L domare, to tame*] to intimidate or dishearten

daunt'less *adj.* that cannot be daunted; fearless —**daunt'less·ly** *adv.* —**daunt'less·ness** *n.*

dau·phin (dô'fin) *n.* [*Fr, dolphin*] the eldest son of the king of France: a title used from 1349 to 1830

dav·en·port (dav'an pôrt') *n.* [*< ?*] a large couch or sofa

Da·vid (dā'vid) *n.* *Bible* the second king of Israel and Judah

da Vin·ci (dā vin'chē), **Le·o·nar·do** (lē'ə nār'dō) 1452-1519; It. painter, sculptor, architect, & scientist

Da·vis (dā'vis), **Jefferson** 1808-89; president of the Confederacy (1861-65)

da·vit (dā'vit, dav'it) *n.* [*OFr dim. of David*] either of a pair of uprights on a ship for lowering or raising a small boat

daw·dle (dôd'l) *vi., vt.* -dled, -dling [*< ?*] to waste (time) in trifling or by being slow —**daw'dler** *n.*

dawn (dôn) *vi.* [*< OE dagian*] 1 to begin to be day 2 to begin to appear, develop, etc. 3 to begin to be understood or felt —*n.* 1 daybreak 2 the beginning (of something)

day (dā) *n.* [*OE dæg*] 1 the period of light between sunrise and sunset 2 the time (24 hours) that it takes the earth to rotate once on its axis 3 [*also pl.*] a period; era 4 a time of power, glory, etc. 5 daily work period [*an 8-hour day*] —**day after day** every day: also **day in, day out**

day'bed' *n.* a couch that can also be used as a bed

day'break' *n.* the time in the morning when light first appears

day care daytime care given to children, as at a day-care center, or to the elderly, as at a social agency —**day'-care'** *adj.*

day'dream' *n.* 1 a pleasant, dreamy series of thoughts 2 a visionary scheme —*vi.* to have daydreams

day'light' *n.* 1 the light of day 2 dawn 3 understanding

daylight saving time [*often D- S- T-*] time that is one hour later than standard time: also **daylight savings time**

Day of Atonement Yom Kippur

day'time' *n.* the time between dawn and sunset

day'-to-day' *adj.* daily; routine

Day·ton (dāt'n) city in SW Ohio: pop. 182,000

Day·to·na Beach (dā tō'nə) resort city in NE Florida, on the Atlantic: pop. 62,000

day trading rapid buying and selling of stocks on the Internet —**day trader**

daze (dāz) *vt.* dazed, daz'ing [*< ON dasi, tired*] to stun or bewilder —*n.* a dazed condition —**daz'ed·ly** *adv.*

daz·zle (daz'əl) *vt., vi.* -zled, -zling [*freq. of DAZE*] 1 to overpower or be overpowered by bright light 2 to surprise or arouse admiration with bril-

liant qualities, display, etc. —*n.* a dazzling —**daz'zler** *n.*

db or **dB** *abbrev.* decibel(s)

DC *abbrev.* 1 direct current: also **dc** 2 District of Columbia

DD or **D.D.** *abbrev.* Doctor of Divinity

DDS or **D.D.S.** *abbrev.* Doctor of Dental Surgery

DDT (dē'dē'tē') *n.* [*< its chemical name*] a powerful insecticide

de- [*< Fr dé- or L de*] *prefix* 1 away from, off [*derail*] 2 down [*degrade*] 3 entirely [*defunct*] 4 reverse the action of [*decode*]

DE Delaware

DEA *abbrev.* Drug Enforcement Administration

dea·con (dē'kən) *n.* [*< Gr diakonos, servant*] 1 a cleric ranking just below a priest 2 a church officer who helps the minister —**dea'con·ess** *fem.n.*

de·ac·ti·vate (dē ak'tə vāt') *vt.* -vat'ed, -vat'ing 1 to make (an explosive, chemical, etc.) inactive 2 *Mil.* to demobilize

dead (ded) *adj.* [*OE*] 1 no longer living 2 without life 3 deathlike 4 lacking warmth, interest, brightness, etc. 5 without feeling, motion, or power 6 extinguished or extinct 7 no longer used; obsolete 8 unerring [*a dead shot*] 9 complete [*a dead stop*] 10 precise [*dead center*] 11 [*Inf.*] very tired —*n.* the time of most darkness, most cold, etc. [*the dead of night*] —*adv.* 1 completely 2 directly [*dead ahead*] —**the dead** those who have died

dead'beat' *n.* [*Slang*] one who tries to evade paying debts

dead'bolt' *n.* a lock for a door, with a bolt that can be moved only by turning the key

dead·en (ded'n) *vt.* 1 to lessen the vigor or intensity of; dull 2 to numb

dead end 1 a street, alley, etc. closed at one end 2 an impasse —**dead'-end'** *adj.*

dead heat a race in which two or more contestants finish even; tie

dead letter 1 a rule, law, etc. no longer enforced 2 an unclaimed postal letter

dead'line' *n.* the latest time by which something must be done

dead'lock' *n.* a standstill resulting from the action of equal and opposed forces —*vt., vi.* to bring or come to a deadlock

dead'ly *adj.* -li·er, -li·est 1 causing or likely to cause death 2 implacable [*deadly enemies*] 3 typical of death [*deadly pallor*] 4 extreme 5 very boring 6 very accurate [*deadly aim*] —*adv.* extremely —**dead'li·ness** *n.*

dead'-on' *adj.* [*Inf.*] completely accurate

dead'pan' *adj., adv.* without expression; blank(ly)

Dead Sea inland body of salt water on the Israeli-Jordanian border

dead'wood' *n.* anything useless or burdensome

deaf (def) *adj.* [*OE*] 1 unable to hear 2 unwilling to respond, as to a plea —**deaf'ness** *n.*

deaf'en (-ən) *vt.* 1 to make deaf 2 to overwhelm with noise —**deaf'en-ing** *adj.*

deaf'-mute' *n.* a person who is deaf and therefore has not learned to speak

deal¹ (dēl) *vt.* **dealt** (delt), **deal'ing** [*< OE dælan*] 1 to portion out or distribute 2 to give; administer (a blow, etc.) 3 [Slang] to sell (illegal drugs) —*vi.* 1 to have to do (*with*) [*science deals with facts*] 2 to conduct oneself [*deal fairly with others*] 3 to do business (*with* or *in*) 4 to distribute playing cards to the players —*n.* 1 the distributing of playing cards 2 a business transaction 3 a bargain or agreement, esp. when secret 4 [Inf.] treatment [*a fair deal*] —**deal'er** *n.*

deal² (dēl) *n.* [*OE dæl, a part*] an indefinite amount —a good (or great) deal 1 a large amount 2 very much

deal'er-ship' *n.* a franchise to sell a product in a specified area

deal'ing *n.* 1 way of acting 2 [*usually pl.*] transactions or relations

dean (dēn) *n.* [*< LL decanus, chief of ten (monks, etc.)*] 1 the presiding official of a cathedral 2 a college official in charge of students or faculty 3 the senior or preeminent member of a group

dean's list a list of students at a college who have earned high grades

dear (dir) *adj.* [*OE deore*] 1 much loved 2 esteemed: a polite form of address [*Dear Sir*] 3 high-priced; costly 4 earnest [*our dearest wish*] —*n.* a loved person; darling —**dear'ly** *adv.* —**dear'ness** *n.*

Dear John (letter) [Inf.] a letter, as to a fiancé, breaking off a close relationship

dearth (därth) *n.* [*ME derth*] scarcity or lack

death (deth) *n.* [*OE*] 1 the act or fact of dying 2 the state of being dead 3 end or destruction 4 the cause of death —**death'like'** *adj.*

death'bed' *n.* used chiefly in the phrase on one's deathbed, during the last hours of one's life

death'blow' *n.* 1 a blow that kills 2 a thing fatal (*to* something)

death'less *adj.* that cannot die; immortal —**death'less-ly** *adv.*

death'ly *adj.* like or characteristic of death —*adv.* extremely [*deathly ill*]

death'trap' *n.* an unsafe building, vehicle, etc.

Death Valley dry, hot desert basin in E California & S Nevada

deb (deb) *n.* [Inf.] short for DEBUTANTE

de·ba·cle (di bā'kəl) *n.* [*Fr débâcler, break up*] 1 a crushing defeat 2 a ruinous collapse

de·bar (dē bār') *vt.* -barred', -bar'ring [*< Anglo-Fr: see DE- & BAR*] to keep (a person) from some right, etc. —**de·bar'ment** *n.*

de·bark (dē bärk') *vt., vi.* [*< Fr: see DE- & BARK³*] to unload from or leave a ship or aircraft —**de·bar·ka·tion** (dē'bär kă'shən) *n.*

de·base (dē bās') *vt.* -based', -bas'ing [*DE- + BASE²*] to make lower in value, dignity, etc. —**de·base'ment** *n.*

de·bate (dē bāt') *vi., vt.* -bat'ed, -bat'ing [*< OFr: see DE- & BATTER¹*] 1 to discuss reasons for and against (something) 2 to take part in a debate with (a person) or about (a question) —*n.* 1 a discussion of opposing reasons 2 a formal contest of skill in reasoned argument —**de·bat'a·ble** *adj.* —**de·bat'er** *n.*

de·bauch (dē bôch') *vt.* [*< OFr desbaucher, seduce*] to lead astray morally; corrupt —*n.* an orgy —**de·bauch'er-y**, *pl. -ies, n.*

deb·au·chee (deb'ô shē', di bôch'ē') *n.* a dissipated person

de·ben·ture (di ben'chər) *n.* [*< L: see DEBT*] 1 a voucher acknowledging a debt 2 an interest-bearing bond issued without specified security

de·bil-i·tate (dē bil'ə tāt') *vt.* -tat'ed, -tat'ing [*< L debilis, weak*] to make weak

de·bil-i·ty (dē bil'ə tē) *n., pl. -ties* [*see prec.*] weakness; feebleness

deb·it (deb'it) *n.* [*< L debere, owe*] 1 an entry in an account of money owed 2 the total of such entries —*vt.* to enter as a debit

debit card a bank card that allows the cost of purchases to be deducted from a bank account

deb·o·nair (deb'ə ner') *adj.* [*< OFr de bon aire, lit., of good breed*] 1 carefree; jaunty 2 urbane Also sp. **deb'o·naire'** —**deb'o·nair'ly** *adv.*

de·brief (dē brēf') *vt.* [*DE- + BRIEF*] to receive information from (a pilot, emissary, etc.) about a recent mission

de·bris or **dé·bris** (də brē') *n.* [*Fr < OFr desbrisier, break apart*] bits and pieces of stone, rubbish, etc.

debt (det) *n.* [*< L debere, owe*] 1 something owed to another 2 the condition of owing [*to be in debt*]

debt'or (-ər) *n.* one who owes a debt

de·bug (dē bug') *vt.* -bugged', -bug'ging [*DE- + BUG*] 1 to correct defects in 2 [Inf.] to find and remove hidden electronic listening devices from

de·bunk (dē bunċ') *vt.* [*DE- + BUNK²*] to expose the exaggerated or false claims, etc. of

De·bus·sy (də bü sē'; *E. deb'yoo sē'*), Claude (klōd; *E. klōd*) 1862-1918; Fr. composer

de·but or **dé·but** (də byoo', də'byoo') *n.* [*Fr < débiter, to lead off*] 1 a first public appearance 2 the formal introduction of a young woman into society —*vi.* to make a debut

deb·u·tante (deb'yoo tānt') *n.* [*Fr*] a young woman making a debut into society

dec *abbrev.* deceased

Dec *abbrev.* December

deca- [*< Gr deka, ten*] combining form ten: also **dec-**

dec·ade (dek'ād') *n.* [*< Gr deka, ten*] a period of ten years

dec·a·dence (dek'ə dəns; di kād'ns) *n.* [*< L de-, from + cadere, to fall*] a decline, as in morals, art, etc.; deterio-

ration —**dec'a-dent** *adj.*, *n.*

de-caf (dē'kaf') *n.* [Inf.] decaffeinated coffee

de-caf-fein-at-ed (dē kaf'ə nāt'id) *adj.* with caffeine removed

de-cal (dē'kal, di kal') *n.* [*< decalcomania < Fr < L calcare, to tread + Gr mania, madness*] a picture or design transferred from prepared paper to glass, wood, etc.

Dec-a-logue or **Dec-a-log** (dek'ə lōg') *n.* [see DECA- & -LOGUE] [sometimes d-] TEN COMMANDMENTS

de-camp (dē kamp') *vi.* [*< Fr*] 1 to break camp 2 to go away suddenly and secretly

de-cant (dē kant') *vt.* [*< Fr < L de-, from + canthus, tire of a wheel*] to pour gently from one container into another

de-cant'er *n.* a decorative glass bottle for serving wine, etc.

de-cap-i-tate (dē kap'ə tāt') *vt.* -tated, -tating [*< L de-, off + caput, head*] to behead —**de-cap'i-ta'tion** *n.*

de-cath-lon (di kath'lān') *n.* [DEC(A)- + Gr *athlon*, a prize] an athletic contest in which each contestant takes part in ten TRACK (sense 6b) events

de-cay (dē kā') *vi.* [see DECADENCE] 1 to lose strength, prosperity, etc. gradually; deteriorate 2 to rot 3 to undergo radioactive disintegration —*vt.* to cause to decay —*n.* 1 deterioration 2 a rotting or rottenness

de-ceive (dē sēs') *n.* [*< L de-, from + cedere, go*] death

de-ceased (dē sēst') *adj.* dead —the deceased the dead person or persons

de-ce-dent (dē sēd'nt) *n.* [see DECEASE] Law a deceased person

de-ceit (dē sēt') *n.* 1 a deceiving or lying 2 a dishonest action 3 deceitful quality

de-ceit'ful *adj.* 1 apt to lie or cheat 2 deceptive; false —**de-ceit'ful-ly** *adv.*

de-ceive (dē sēv') *vt.*, *vi.* -ceived', -ceiv'ing [*< L de-, from + capere, take*] to make (a person) believe what is not true; mislead —**de-ceiv'er** *n.* —**de-ceiv'ing-ly** *adv.*

de-cel-er-ate (dē sel'ər āt') *vt.*, *vi.* -ated, -ating [DE- + (AC)CELERATE] to reduce the speed (of); slow down —**de-cel'er-a'tion** *n.*

De-cem-ber (dē sem'bər) *n.* [*< L decem, ten: tenth month in Roman calendar*] the twelfth and last month of the year, having 31 days

de-cen-cy (dē'sən sē) *n.*, *pl.* -cies a being decent; propriety, courtesy, etc.

de-cen-ni-al (dē sen'ē əl) *adj.* [*< L decem, ten + annus, year*] 1 happening every ten years 2 lasting ten years

de-cent (dē'sənt) *adj.* [*< L decere, befit*] 1 proper and fitting 2 not obscene 3 respectable 4 adequate [decent wages] 5 fair and kind —**de'cent-ly** *adv.*

de-cen-tral-ize (dē sen'trə līz') *vt.* -ized', -izing to break up a concentration of (governmental authority, industry, etc.) and distribute more widely —**de-cen'tral-i-za'tion** *n.*

de-cep-tion (dē sep'shən) *n.* 1 a deceiving or being deceived 2 an illusion or fraud —**de-cep'tive** *adj.*

deci- [*< L decem, ten*] combining form one tenth part of

dec-i-bel (des'ə bəl) *n.* [prec. + *bel*, after BELL] a unit for measuring relative loudness of a sound

de-cide (dē sīd') *vt.* -cid'ed, -cid'ing [*< L de-, off + caedere, to cut*] 1 to end (a contest, dispute, etc.) by giving one side the victory 2 to reach a decision about; resolve —*vi.* to reach a decision —**de-cid'a-ble** *adj.*

de-cid'ed *adj.* 1 definite; clear-cut 2 determined —**de-cid'ed-ly** *adv.*

de-cid-u-ous (dē sij'ō əs) *adj.* [*< L de-, off, down + cadere, to fall*] 1 falling off or out at a certain season or stage of growth, as some leaves or antlers do 2 shedding leaves annually

dec-i-mal (des'ə məl) *adj.* [*< L decem, ten*] of or based on the number 10 —*n.* a fraction with a denominator of 10 or some power of 10, shown by a point (decimal point) before the numerator (Ex.: .5 = $\frac{5}{10}$)

dec-i-mate (des'ə māt') *vt.* -mat'ed, -mating [*< L decem, ten*] to destroy or kill a large part of (lit., a tenth part of) —**dec-i-ma'tion** *n.*

de-ci-pher (dē sī'fər) *vt.* [DE- + CIPHER] 1 DECODE 2 to make out the meaning of (illegible writing, etc.)

de-ci-sion (dē sizh'ən) *n.* 1 the act of deciding or settling a dispute or question 2 the act of making up one's mind 3 a judgment or conclusion 4 determination; firmness of mind

de-ci-sive (dē sī'siv) *adj.* 1 that settles a dispute, question, etc.; conclusive 2 critically important; crucial 3 showing firmness —**de-ci'sive-ly** *adv.*

deck¹ (dek) *n.* [prob. < earlier LowG *verdeck*] 1 a floor of a ship 2 any platform, floor, etc., like a ship's deck 3 a pack of playing cards 4 TAPE DECK

deck² (dek) *vt.* [MDu *decken*, to cover] to array or adorn: often with *out*

de-claim (dē klām') *vi.*, *vt.* [*< L de-, intens. + clamare, to cry*] to recite or speak in a studied, dramatic, or impassioned way —**dec-la-ma'tion** (dek'lə mā'shən) *n.* —**de-clam-a-to-ry** (dē klām'ə tōr'ē) *adj.*

dec-la-ra-tion (dek'lə rā'shən) *n.* 1 a declaring; announcement 2 a formal statement

de-clar-a-tive (dē kler'ə tiv) *adj.* making a statement or assertion

de-clare (dē kler') *vt.* -clared', -clar'ing [*< L de-, intens. + clarus, clear*] 1 to announce openly or formally 2 to show or reveal 3 to say emphatically —**de-clar'er** *n.*

de-clas-si-fy (dē klas'ə fī') *vt.* -fied', -fy'ing to make (secret documents, etc.) available to the public —**de-clas'si-fi-ca'tion** *n.*

de-clen-sion (dē klen'shən) *n.* [see fol.] 1 a descent 2 a decline 3 Gram. the inflection of nouns, pronouns, or adjectives

de-cline (dē klīn') *vi.* -clined', -clin'ing [*< L de-, from + clinare, to bend*] 1 to bend or slope downward 2 to deterio-

rate; decay 3 to refuse something —*vt.*
1 to cause to bend or slope downward 2
to refuse politely 3 *Gram.* to give the
inflected forms of (a noun, pronoun, or
adjective) —*n.* 1 a declining; dropping,
failing, decay, etc. 2 a period of decline
3 a downward slope —*dec-li-na-tion*
(dek'lə nā'shən) *n.* —*de-clin'er n.*

de-cliv-i-ty (dē kliv'ə tē) *n., pl. -ties* [*< L*
de-, down + *clivus*, a slope] a downward
slope

de-code (dē kōd') *vt.* -cod'ed, -cod'ing
to decipher (a coded message)

dé-col-le-té (dā käl'ə tā') *adj.* [*Fr < L de-*,
from + *collum*, neck] cut low so as to
bare the neck and shoulders

de-col-o-ni-za-tion (dē käl'ə nə zā'
shən) *n.* a freeing or being freed from
colonial status —*de-col'o-nize'* (-ə nīz'),
-nized', -niz'ing, *vt., vi.*

de-com-pose (dē'kəm pōz') *vt., vi.*
-posed', -pos'ing [*< Fr: see DE- & COM-*
POSE] 1 to break up into basic parts 2
to rot —*de-com-po-si-tion* (dē kām pə
zish'ən) *n.*

de-com-press (dē'kəm pres') *vt.* to free
from pressure, esp. from air pressure —
de'com-pres'sion n.

de-con-gest-ant (dē'kən jes'tənt) *n.* a
medication that relieves congestion, as
in the nasal passages

de-con-struct (dē'kən strukt') *vt.* [*Fr*]
1 to analyze rigorously 2 to take apart;
disassemble —*de'con-struct'ion n.*

de-con-tam-i-nate (dē'kən tam'ə nāt')
vt. -nat'ed, -nat'ing to rid of a harmful
substance, as radioactive material

dé-cor or *de-cor* (dā kôr') *n.* [*Fr*] a
decorative scheme, as of a room

dec-o-rate (dek'ə rāt') *vt.* -rat'ed,
-rat'ing [*< L decus*, an ornament] 1 to
adorn; ornament 2 to paint or wall-
paper 3 to give a medal or similar
honor to —*dec-o-ra-tive* (dek'ə rə tiv, -ə
rāt'iv) *adj.* —*dec'o-ra'tor n.*

dec'o-ra'tion n. 1 a decorating 2 an
ornament 3 a medal, etc.

Decoration Day MEMORIAL DAY

dec-o-rous (dek'ə rəs, di kôr'əs) *adj.*
having or showing decorum, good taste,
etc. —*dec'o-rous-ly adv.*

de-co-rum (di kôr'əm) *n.* [*< L decorus*,
proper] propriety and good taste in
behavior, speech, etc.

de-cou-page or *dé-cou-page* (dā'kōō
pāzh') *n.* [*< Fr dé-*, *DE-* + *couper*, to cut]
the art of decorating a surface with var-
nished paper cutouts

de-coy (dē koi'; *for n., usually dē'koi'*) *n.*
[*< Du de kooi*, the cage] 1 an artificial
or trained bird, etc. used to lure game
within gun range 2 a thing or person
used to lure into danger —*vt.* to lure
into danger

de-crease (dē krēs'; *for n., usually dē'*
krēs') *vi., vt.* -creased', -creas'ing [*< L*
de-, from + *crescere*, grow] to become or
make less, smaller, etc.; diminish —*n.*
1 a decreasing 2 amount of decreasing

de-cree (dē krē') *n.* [*< L de-*, from +
cernere, to judge] an official order or
decision —*vt.* -creed', -cree'ing to order
or decide by decree

de-crep-it (dē krep'it) *adj.* [*< L de-*,
intens. + *crepare*, to creak] broken
down or worn out by old age or long use
—*de-crep'i-tude'* (-ə tōōd') *n.*

de-cre-scen-do (dā'krə shen'dō, dē'-)
[also in italics] *Music adj., adv.* [*It < L,*
DECREASE] gradually decreasing in
loudness —*n., pl. -dos* a gradual
decrease in loudness

de-crim-i-nal-ize (dē krim'ə nəl īz') *vt.*
-ized', -iz'ing to eliminate or reduce the
penalties for (a crime)

de-cry (dē kri') *vt.* -cried', -cry'ing [*< Fr:*
see *DE-* & *CRY*] to speak out against
openly; denounce

ded-i-cate (ded'i kāt') *vt.* -cat'ed,
-cat'ing [*< L de-*, intens. + *dicare*, pro-
claim] 1 to set apart for, or devote to, a
special purpose 2 to address (a book,
etc.) to someone as a sign of honor —
ded'i-ca'tion n.

ded'i-cat'ed adj. 1 devoted; faithful 2
designating a device, etc. to be used
only for a particular purpose

de-duce (dē dōōs') *vt.* -duced', -duc'ing
[*< L de-*, down + *ducere*, to lead] to
infer or decide by reasoning —*de-duc'i-*
ble adj.

de-duct (dē dukt') *vt.* [see *prec.*] to take
away or subtract (a quantity)

de-duct'i-ble (-duk'tə bəl) *adj.* that can
be deducted —*n.* an amount stipulated
in an insurance policy to be paid by the
person insured in the event of a loss,
etc., with the insurer paying the
remainder

de-duc'tion (-duk'shən) *n.* 1 a deduct-
ing; subtraction 2 an amount deducted
3 *a)* reasoning from the general to the
specific *b)* a conclusion reached by such
reasoning —*de-duc'tive adj.*

deed (dēd) *n.* [*< OE ded*] 1 a thing
done; act 2 a feat of courage, skill, etc.
3 a legal document which transfers a
property —*vt.* to transfer (property) by
deed

deem (dēm) *vt., vi.* [*< OE deman*, to
judge] to think, believe, or judge

de-em-pha-size (dē em'fə siz') *vt.*
-sized', -siz'ing to lessen the importance
of —*de-em'pha-sis* (-sis) *n.*

deep (dēp) *adj.* [*OE deop*] 1 extending
far downward, inward, backward, etc.
2 hard to understand; abstruse 3 seri-
ous; profound 4 dark and rich [a deep
red] 5 absorbed by: with *in* [deep in
thought] 6 great in degree; intense 7
of low pitch [a deep voice] 8 large; big
—*n.* a deep place —*adv.* far down, far
back, etc. —*the deep* [Old Poet.] the
ocean —*deep'ly adv.* —*deep'ness n.*

deep'en vt., vi. to make or become deep
or deeper

deep'freeze' n. a condition of sus-
pended activity, etc. —*vt.* -froze',
-fro'zen, -freez'ing to subject (foods) to
sudden freezing so as to preserve and
store

deep'-fry' vt. -fried', -fry'ing to fry in a
deep pan of boiling fat or oil

deep'-root'ed adj. 1 having deep roots
2 firmly fixed

deep'-seat'ed adj. 1 buried deep 2
firmly fixed

deep'-six' vt. [*< six fathoms*] [*Slang*] to get rid of, as by throwing overboard

deep space OUTER SPACE

deer (dir) *n.*, *pl.* deer or deers [*OE deor*, wild animal] any of various ruminants, including the elk, moose, and reindeer, the male of which grows and sheds antlers annually

de-es-ca-late (dē es'kə lāt') *vi.*, *vt.* -lat'ed, -lat'ing to reduce in scope, magnitude, etc. —**de-es'ca-la'tion** *n.*

de-face (dē fās') *vt.* -faced', -fac'ing [*see DE- & FACE*] to spoil the look of; mar —**de-face'ment** *n.*

de fac-to (dē fak'tō) [*L*] actually existing but not officially approved

de-fal-cate (dē fal'kāt') *vi.* -cat'ed, -cat'ing [*< L de-*, from + *falx*, a sickle] to steal or misuse funds entrusted to one's care; embezzle —**de-fal-ca'tion** *n.*

de-fame (dē fām') *vt.* -famed', -fam'ing [*< L dis-*, from + *fama*, fame] to attack the reputation of; slander or libel —**def-a-ma'tion** (def'ə mā'shən) *n.* —**de-fam-a-to-ry** (dē fam'ə tōr'ē) *adj.* —**de-fam'er** *n.*

de-fang (dē fan') *vt.* 1 to remove the fangs of 2 to make harmless —**de-fanged'** *adj.*

de-fault (dē fōlt') *n.* [*< L de-*, away + *fallere*, fail] failure to do or appear as required; specif., failure to pay money due —*vi.*, *vt.* 1 to fail to do or pay when required 2 to lose (a contest) by default —**de-fault'er** *n.*

de-feat (dē fēt') *vt.* [*< L dis-*, from + *facere*, do] 1 to win victory over 2 to bring to nothing; frustrate —*n.* a defeating or being defeated

de-feat'ist *n.* one who too readily accepts or expects defeat —**de-feat'ism'** *n.*

def-e-cate (def'i kāt') *vi.* -cat'ed, -cat'ing [*< L de-*, from + *faex*, dregs] to excrete waste matter from the bowels —**def-e-ca'tion** *n.*

de-fect (dē'fekt'; *for v.* dē fekt') *n.* [*< L de-*, from + *facere*, do] 1 lack of something necessary for completeness 2 an imperfection or weakness; fault —*vi.* to forsake a party, cause, etc., esp. so as to join the opposition —**de-fec'tion** *n.* —**de-fec'tor** *n.*

de-fec-tive (dē fek'tiv) *adj.* having defects; imperfect; faulty

de-fend (dē fend') *vt.* [*< L de-*, away + *fendere*, to strike] 1 to guard from attack; protect 2 to support or justify 3 *Law a*) to oppose (an action) *b*) to act as lawyer for (an accused) —**de-fend'er** *n.*

de-fend-ant (dē fen'dənt, -dant') *n.* *Law* the person sued or accused

de-fense (dē fens', dē'fens') *n.* 1 a defending against attack 2 something that defends 3 justification by speech or writing 4 *a*) the arguments of a defendant *b*) the defendant and his or her counsel *Brit. sp.* defence —**de-fense'less** *adj.* —**de-fen'si-ble** *adj.*

defense mechanism any thought process used unconsciously to protect oneself against painful feelings

de-fen'sive *adj.* 1 defending 2 of or

for defense —*n.* a position of defense —**de-fen'sive-ly** *adv.*

de-fer¹ (dē fər') *vt.*, *vi.* -ferred', -fer'ring [*see DIFFER*] 1 to postpone; delay 2 to postpone the induction of (a person) into compulsory military service —**de-fer'ment** or **de-fer'ral** *n.*

de-fer² (dē fər') *vi.* -ferred', -fer'ring [*< L de-*, down + *ferre*, to BEAR¹] to yield with courtesy (*to*)

defer-ence (def'ər əns) *n.* 1 a yielding in opinion, judgment, etc. 2 courteous respect

defer-en'tial (-en'shəl) *adj.* showing deference; very respectful

de-fi-ance (dē fī'əns) *n.* a defying; open, bold resistance to authority —**de-fi'ant** *adj.* —**de-fi'ant-ly** *adv.*

de-fi-cien-cy (dē fish'ən sē) *n.* [*< L de-*, from + *facere*, do] 1 a being deficient 2 *pl.* -cies a shortage

deficiency disease a disease caused by a lack of vitamins, minerals, etc. in the diet

de-fi-cient (dē fish'ənt) *adj.* [*see DEFICIENCY*] 1 lacking in some essential; incomplete 2 inadequate in amount

def-i-cit (def'ə sit) *n.* [*L < deficere*, to lack] the amount by which a sum of money is less than the required amount, as when there are more expenditures than income

de-file¹ (dē fīl') *vt.* -filed', -fil'ing [*< OFr defouler*, tread underfoot] 1 to make filthy 2 to profane; sully —**de-file'ment** *n.* —**de-fil'er** *n.*

de-file² (dē fīl', dē'fīl') *vi.* -filed', -fil'ing [*< Fr dé-*, from + *fil*, thread] to march in single file —*n.* a narrow passage, valley, etc.

de-fine (dē fin') *vt.* -fined', -fin'ing [*< L de-*, from + *finis*, boundary] 1 to determine the limits or nature of; describe exactly 2 to state the meaning of (a word, etc.) —**de-fin'er** *n.*

def-i-nite (def'ə nit) *adj.* [*see prec.*] 1 having exact limits 2 precise in meaning; explicit 3 certain; positive 4 *Gram.* limiting or specifying [*"the"* is the *definite* article] —**def'i-nite-ly** *adv.* —**def'i-nite-ness** *n.*

def-i-ni'tion (-nish'ən) *n.* 1 a defining or being defined 2 a statement of the meaning of a word 3 clarity of outline, sound, etc.

de-fin-i-tive (dē fin'ə tiv) *adj.* 1 conclusive; final 2 most nearly complete 3 serving to define

de-flate (dē flāt') *vt.*, *vi.* -flat'ed, -flat'ing [*DE- + (IN)FLATE*] 1 to collapse by letting out air or gas 2 to lessen in size, importance, etc. 3 to cause deflation of (currency, etc.)

de-fla'tion *n.* 1 a deflating 2 a reduction in prices resulting from severe economic decline

de-flect (dē flekt') *vt.*, *vi.* [*< L de-*, from + *flectere*, to bend] to turn or make go to one side —**de-flec'tion** *n.* —**de-flec'tive** *adj.* —**de-flec'tor** *n.*

De-foe (di fō'), Daniel 1660-1731; Eng writer

de-fog-ger (dē fôg'ər) *n.* an apparatus for clearing condensed moisture, as from a car window

de-fo-li-ant (dē fô'lē ənt) *n.* a chemical substance that causes leaves to fall from growing plants

de-fo'li-ate' (-āt') *vt.* -at'ed, -at'ing [*< L de-, from + folium, leaf*] to strip (trees, etc.) of leaves —**de-fo'li-a'tion** *n.*

de-form (dē fôrm') *vt.* [*< L de-, from + forma, form*] 1 to impair the form of 2 to make ugly —**de-for-ma-tion** (dē'fôr mā'shən, def'ər-) *n.*

de-formed' *adj.* misshapen

de-form'i-ty *n., pl. -ties* 1 a deformed part, as of the body 2 ugliness or depravity

de-fraud (dē frôd') *vt.* to take property, rights, etc. from by fraud; cheat —**de-fraud'er** *n.*

de-fray (dē frā') *vt.* [*Fr défrayer*] to pay (the cost or expenses) —**de-fray'a-ble** *adj.* —**de-fray'al** *n.*

de-frost (dē frôst') *vt., vi.* to rid or get rid of frost or ice —**de-frost'er** *n.*

deft (deft) *adj.* [*see DAFT*] skillful; dexterous —**deft'ly** *adv.*

de-funct (dē funkt') *adj.* [*< L defungi, to finish*] no longer existing; dead or extinct

de-fuse (dē fyōōz') *vt.* -fused', -fus'ing 1 to remove the fuse from (a bomb, etc.) 2 to make harmless, less tense, etc.

de-fy (dē fī') *vt.* -fied', -fy'ing [*< LL dis-, from + fidus, faithful*] 1 to resist or oppose boldly or openly 2 to dare to do or prove something

de-gen-er-ate (dē jen'ər it; *for v., -āt'*) *adj.* [*< L de-, from + genus, race*] 1 having sunk below a former or normal condition, etc.; deteriorated 2 depraved —*n.* a degenerate person —*vi.* -at'ed, -at'ing to lose former normal or higher qualities —**de-gen'er-a-cy** (-ə sē) *n.* —**de-gen'er-a'tion** *n.* —**de-gen'er-a-tive** (-ə tiv, -āt'iv) *adj.*

de-grad-a-ble (dē grād'ə bəl) *adj.* capable of being degraded, esp. of being readily decomposed by chemicals, as some plastics

de-grade (dē grād') *vt.* -grad'ed, -grad'ing [*< L de-, down + gradus, a step*] 1 to demote 2 to lower in quality, moral character, dignity, etc.; debase, dishonor, etc. —**deg-ra-da-tion** (deg'rə dā'shən) *n.*

de-gree (di grē') *n.* [*see prec.*] 1 any of the successive steps in a process 2 social or official rank 3 extent, amount, or intensity 4 a rank given by a college or university to one who has completed a course of study, or to a distinguished person as an honor 5 a grade of comparison of adjectives and adverbs [the superlative *degree*] 6 *Law* the seriousness of a crime [murder in the first *degree*] 7 *Math.* a unit of measure for angles or arcs, one 360th of the circumference of a circle 8 *Physics* a unit of measure for temperature —**to a degree** somewhat

de-greed' (-grēd') *adj.* having a college or university degree

de-hu-man-ize (dē hyōō'mə nīz') *vt.* -ized', -iz'ing to deprive of human qualities; make machinelike —**de-hu'man-i-za'tion** *n.*

de-hu-mid-i-fy (dē'hyōō mid'ə fī') *vt.* -fied', -fy'ing to remove moisture from (air, etc.) —**de'hu-mid'i-fi'er** *n.*

de-hy-dr-ate (dē hī'drāt') *vt.* -drat'ed, -drat'ing to remove water from (a substance, etc.); dry —*vi.* to lose water —**de'hy-dra'tion** *n.* —**de'hy-dra'tor** *n.*

de-ice (dē īs') *vt.* -iced', -ic'ing to melt ice from —**de-ic'er** *n.*

de-i-fy (dē'ə fī') *vt.* -fied', -fy'ing [*< L deus, god + facere, make*] 1 to make a god of 2 to look upon as a god —**de'i-fi-ca'tion** (-fi kă'shən) *n.*

deign (dān) *vi., vt.* [*< L dignus, worthy*] to condescend (to do or give)

de-ism (dē'iz'əm) *n.* [*< L deus, god*] the belief that God exists and created the world but takes no part in its functioning —**de'ist** *n.*

de-i-ty (dē'ə tē) *n.* [*< L deus, god*] 1 the state of being a god 2 *pl. -ties* a god or goddess —**the Deity** God

dé-jà vu (dā'zhə vōō') [*Fr, already seen*] a feeling of having been in a place or experienced something before

de-ject (dē jekt') *vt.* [*< L de-, down + jacere, throw*] to dishearten; depress —**de-ject'ed** *adj.* —**de-jec'tion** *n.*

Del-a-ware (del'ə wer', -war') state of the E U.S.: 1,955 sq. mi.; pop. 666,000; cap. Dover: abbrev. *DE* —**Del'a-war'e-an** *adj., n.*

de-lay (dē lā') *vt.* [*< OFr de-, intens. + laier, to leave*] 1 to put off; postpone 2 to make late; detain —*vi.* to linger —*n.* 1 a delaying or being delayed 2 the time one is delayed

de-lec-ta-ble (dē lek'tə bəl) *adj.* [*see DELIGHT*] delightful or delicious

de-lec-ta-tion (dē'lek tā'shən) *n.* [*see DELIGHT*] delight; enjoyment

del-e-gate (del'ə git; *for v., -gāt'*) *n.* [*< L de-, from + legare, send*] a person authorized to act for others; representative —*vt.* -gat'ed, -gat'ing 1 to appoint as a delegate 2 to entrust (authority, etc.) to another

del'e-ga'tion (-gā'shən) *n.* 1 a delegating or being delegated 2 a body of delegates

de-lete (dē lēt') *vt.* -let'ed, -let'ing [*< L delere, destroy*] to take out (a word, etc.); cross out —**de-le'tion** *n.*

del-e-te-ri-ous (del'ə tir'ē əs) *adj.* [*< Gr dēleisthai, injure*] harmful to health or well-being

delft-ware (delft'wer') *n.* [*after Delft, city in the Netherlands*] glazed earthenware, usually blue and white: also delft

Del-hi (del'ē) city in N India: pop. 4,884,000: see also NEW DELHI

del-i (del'ē) *n.* short for DELICATESSEN

de-lib-er-ate (di lib'ər it; *for v., -āt'*) *adj.* [*< L de-, intens. + librare, weigh*] 1 carefully thought out; premeditated 2 not rash or hasty 3 unhurried —*vi., vt.* -at'ed, -at'ing to consider carefully —**de-lib'er-ate-ly** *adv.* —**de-lib'er-a-tive** (-āt'iv, -ə tiv) *adj.*

de-lib'er-a'tion (-ā'shən) *n.* 1 a deliberating 2 [often *pl.*] consideration of alternatives 3 carefulness; slowness

del-i-ca-cy (del'i kə sē) *n., pl. -cies* 1 the quality of being delicate; fineness, weakness, sensitivity; etc. 2 a choice food

del'i-cate (-kit) *adj.* [*< L delicatus, delightful*] 1 pleasing in its lightness, mildness, etc. 2 beautifully fine in texture, workmanship, etc. 3 slight and subtle 4 easily damaged 5 frail in health 6 *a)* needing careful handling *b)* showing tact, consideration, etc. 7 finely sensitive —**del'i-cate-ly** *adv.* —**del'i-cate-ness** *n.*

del-i-ca-tes-sen (del'i kə tes'an) *n.* [*< Ger pl. < Fr délicatesse, delicacy*] 1 prepared cooked meats, fish, cheeses, salads, etc., collectively 2 a shop where such foods are sold

de-li-cious (di lish'əs) *adj.* [see *fol.*] 1 delightful 2 very pleasing to taste or smell —**de-li'cious-ly** *adv.* —**de-li'cious-ness** *n.*

de-light (di lit') *vt.* [*< L de-, from + lacere, entice*] to give great pleasure to —*vi.* 1 to give great pleasure 2 to be highly pleased; rejoice —*n.* 1 great pleasure 2 something giving great pleasure —**de-light'ed** *adj.*

de-light'ful *adj.* giving delight; very pleasing —**de-light'ful-ly** *adv.*

De-li-lah (di li'lə) *n.* *Bible* the mistress and betrayer of Samson

de-lim-it (dē lim'it) *vt.* to fix the limits of —**de-lim'i-ta'tion** *n.*

de-lin-e-ate (di lin'ē āt') *vt. -at'ed, -at'ing* [*< L de-, from + linea, a line*] 1 to draw; sketch 2 to depict in words —**de-lin'e-a'tion** *n.*

de-lin-quent (di lin'kwənt) *adj.* [*< L de-, from + linquere, leave*] 1 failing to do what duty or law requires 2 overdue, as taxes —*n.* a delinquent person; esp., a juvenile delinquent —**de-lin'quen-cy, pl. -cies, n.** —**de-lin'quent-ly** *adv.*

del-i-quesce (del'i kwes') *vi. -quesced', -quesc'ing* [*< L < de-, from + liquere, be liquid*] to become liquid by absorbing moisture from the air —**del'i-ques'cent** *adj.*

de-lir-i-ous (di lir'ē əs) *adj.* 1 in a state of delirium 2 of or caused by delirium 3 wildly excited —**de-lir'i-ous-ly** *adv.* —**de-lir'i-ous-ness** *n.*

de-lir'i-um (-əm) *n.* [*< L de-, from + lira, a line*] 1 a temporary mental disturbance, as during a fever, marked by confused speech and hallucinations 2 uncontrollably wild excitement

de-liv-er (di liv'ər) *vt.* [*< L de-, intens. + liber, free*] 1 to set free or rescue 2 to assist at the birth of 3 to make (a speech, etc.) 4 to hand over 5 to distribute (mail, etc.) 6 to strike (a blow) 7 to throw (a ball, etc.) —*vi.* 1 to make deliveries 2 to produce, etc. something promised

de-liv'er-ance *n.* a freeing or being freed; rescue

de-liv'er-y *n., pl. -er-ies* 1 a handing over 2 a distributing, as of mail 3 a giving birth 4 any giving forth 5 the act or manner of delivering a speech,

ball, etc. 6 something delivered

dell (del) *n.* [OE *del*] a small, secluded valley or glen, usually wooded

del-phin-i-um (del fin'ē əm) *n.* [*< Gr delphin, dolphin*] a tall plant bearing spikes of flowers, usually blue

del-ta (del'tə) *n.* 1 the fourth letter of the Greek alphabet (Δ, δ) 2 a deposit of soil, usually triangular, formed at the mouth of a large river

de-lude (di lōd') *vt. -lud'ed, -lud'ing* [*< L de-, from + ludere, to play*] to mislead; deceive

del-uge (del'yōj') *n.* [*< L dis, off + luere, to wash*] 1 a great flood 2 a heavy rainfall 3 an overwhelming rush of anything —*vt. -uged', -ug'ing* 1 to flood 2 to overwhelm

de-lu-sion (di lōō'zhən) *n.* 1 a deluding or being deluded 2 a false belief, specif. one that persists psychotically —**de-lu'sive** or **de-lu'sion-al** *adj.*

de-luxe (di luks', -looks') *adj.* [Fr, of luxury] of extra fine quality —*adv.* in a deluxe manner

delve (delv) *vi. delved, delv'ing* [OE *delfan*] 1 [Now Dial., Chiefly Brit.] to dig 2 to search (*into*) —**delv'er** *n.*

Dem *abbrev.* 1 Democrat 2 Democratic

de-mag-net-ize (dē mag'nə tiz') *vt. -ized', -iz'ing* to remove magnetism or magnetic properties from —**de-mag-net-i-za'tion** *n.*

dem-a-gogue or **dem-a-gog** (dem'ə gäg') *n.* [*< Gr dēmos, the people + agōgos, leader*] one who tries to stir up people's emotions in order to win them over and so gain power —**dem'a-gog'y** (-gä'jē, -gäg'ē) or **dem'a-gogu'er-y** (-gäg'ər ē) *n.*

de-mand (di mand') *vt.* [*< L de-, from + mandare, entrust*] 1 to ask for boldly or urgently 2 to ask for as a right 3 to require; need —*vi.* to make a demand —*n.* 1 a demanding 2 a thing demanded 3 a strong request 4 an urgent requirement 5 *Economics* the desire for a commodity together with ability to pay for it; also, the amount people are ready to buy at a certain price —**in demand** wanted or sought —**on demand** when presented for payment

de-mand'ing *adj.* making difficult demands on one's patience, energy, etc.

de-mar-ca-tion (dē'mär kā'shən) *n.* [*< Sp de-, from + marcar, to mark*] 1 the act of setting and marking limits or boundaries 2 a limit or boundary

de-mean¹ (dē mēn') *vt.* [DE- + MEAN²] to degrade; humble

de-mean² (dē mēn') *vt.* [see *fol.*] to behave or conduct (oneself)

de-mean-or (di mēn'ər) *n.* [*< OFr demener, to lead*] outward behavior; conduct; deportment: Brit. sp. **demean-our**

de-ment-ed (dē ment'id) *adj.* [see *fol.*] mentally deranged; insane

de-men-tia (di men'shə) *n.* [*< L de-, out from + mens, the mind*] a disorder of the mind impairing perception, memory, etc.

de·mer·it (dē mer'it) *n.* [*< L de-*, intens. + *merere*, to deserve, with *de-* taken as negative] 1 a fault; defect 2 a mark recorded against a student, etc. for poor conduct or work

de·mesne (di măn', -mēn') *n.* [*see DOMAIN*] a region or domain

De·me·ter (di mēt'ər) *n.* *Gr. Myth.* the goddess of agriculture

demi- [*< L dimidius*, half] *prefix* 1 half 2 less than usual in size, power, etc. [*demigod*]

dem·i·god (dem'i gäd') *n.* 1 a minor deity 2 a godlike person

dem'i·john' (-jăn') *n.* [*Fr dame-jeanne*] a large bottle of glass or earthenware in a wicker casing

de·mil·i·ta·rize (dē mil'ə tə rīz') *vt.* -rized', -riz'ing to free from organized military control

dem·i·monde (dem'i mänd') *n.* [*Fr < demi-* + *monde*, world] the class of women who have lost social standing because of sexual promiscuity

de·mise (dē mīz') *n.* [*< L de-*, down + *mittere*, send] 1 *Law* a transfer of an estate by lease 2 death —*vt.* -mised', -mis'ing to transfer (an estate) by lease

dem·i·tasse (dem'i tās', -tas') *n.* [*Fr < demi-* + *tasse*, cup] a small cup of or for after-dinner coffee

dem·o (dem'ō) *n., pl. -os* 1 a recording made to demonstrate a song, the talent of a performer, etc. 2 a product used in demonstrations

de·mo·bi·lize (dē mō'bə līz') *vt.* -lized', -liz'ing to disband (troops) —*de·mo'bi·li·za'tion n.*

de·moc·ra·cy (di māk'rə sē) *n., pl. -cies* [*< Gr dēmos*, the people + *kratein*, to rule] 1 government by the people, directly or through representatives 2 a country, etc. with such government 3 equality of rights, opportunity, and treatment

dem·o·crat (dem'ə krat') *n.* 1 one who supports or practices democracy 2 [D-] a Democratic Party member

dem'o·crat'ic *adj.* 1 of or for democracy 2 of or for all the people 3 not snobbish 4 [D-] of the Democratic Party —*dem'o·crat'i·cal·ly adv.*

Democratic Party one of the two major political parties in the U.S.

de·mod·u·la·tion (dē māj'ə lā'shən) *n.* *Radio* the recovery, at the receiver, of a signal that has been modulated on a carrier wave

dem·o·graph·ics (dem'ə graf'iks) *pl.n.* demographic characteristics of a population, as age, sex, or income, used for research, etc.

de·mog·ra·phy (di māj'grə fē) *n.* [*< Gr dēmos*, the people + *-GRAPHY*] the statistical study of human populations — **de·mog'ra·pher** *n.* —**dem·o·graph·ic** (dem'ə graf'ik) *adj.* —**dem'o·graph'i·cal·ly adv.**

de·mol·ish (di māl'ish) *vt.* [*< L de-*, down + *moliri*, build] 1 to pull down or smash 2 to destroy; ruin —**dem·o·li·tion** (dem'ə lish'ən) *n.*

de·mon (dē'mən) *n.* [*< L daemon*] 1 a devil; evil spirit 2 one regarded as evil, cruel, etc. 3 one with great energy, skill, etc. —**de·mon·ic** (di măn'ik) *adj.* —**de·mon'i·cal·ly adv.**

de·mon·e·tize (dē măn'ə tīz') *vt.* -tized', -tiz'ing to deprive (esp. currency) of its standard value

de·mon·ize (dē'mən īz') *vt.* -ized', -iz'ing 1 to make into a demon 2 to characterize as evil, cruel, etc. — **de'mon·i·za'tion n.**

de·mon·stra·ble (di măn'strə bəl) *adj.* that can be demonstrated, or proved — **de·mon'stra·bly adv.**

dem·on·strate (dem'ən strāt') *vt.* -strat'ed, -strat'ing [*< L de-*, from + *monstrare*, to show] 1 to show by reasoning; prove 2 to explain by using examples, etc. 3 to show how something works —*vi.* to show feelings or views publicly by meetings, etc. — **dem'on·stra'tion n.** —**dem'on·stra'tor n.**

de·mon·stra·tive (di măn'strə tiv) *adj.* 1 illustrative 2 giving proof (of) 3 showing feelings openly 4 *Gram.* pointing out ["this" is a demonstrative pronoun] —*n. Gram.* a demonstrative pronoun or adjective —**de·mon'stra·tive·ly adv.**

de·mor·al·ize (dē mōr'ə līz') *vt.* -ized', -iz'ing 1 to lower the morale of 2 to throw into confusion —**de·mor'al·i·za'tion n.**

De·mos·the·nes (di mäs'thə nēz') 384-322 B.C.; Athenian orator

de·mote (dē mōt') *vt.* -mot'ed, -mot'ing [*DE-* + (PRO)MOTE] to reduce to a lower rank —**de·mo'tion n.**

de·mul·cent (dē mul'sənt) *adj.* [*< L de-*, down + *mulcere*, to stroke] soothing — *n.* a soothing ointment

de·mur (dē mūr', di-) *vi.* -murred', -mur'ring [*< L de-*, from + *mora*, a delay] to hesitate, as because of doubts; have scruples; object —*n.* a demurring; also **de·mur'al**

de·mure (di myoor') *adj.* [*< ME de-* (prob. intens.) + *OFr mēur*, mature] 1 modest or reserved 2 affectedly modest; coy —**de·mure'ly adv.**

de·mur·rage (di mūr'ij) *n.* 1 the compensation payable for delaying a vehicle or vessel carrying freight, as by failure to load or unload 2 the delay itself

de·mur·rer (di mūr'ər) *n.* [*see DEMUR*] 1 a plea for dismissal of a lawsuit because statements supporting a claim are defective 2 an objection

den (den) *n.* [*OE denn*] 1 the lair of a wild animal 2 a haunt, as of thieves 3 a small, cozy room where a person can be alone to read, work, etc.

de·na·ture (dē nā'chər) *vt.* -tured, -tur'ing 1 to change the nature of 2 to make (alcohol) unfit to drink

den·drite (den'drīt') *n.* [*< Gr dendron*, tree] the part of a nerve cell that carries impulses toward the cell body

Deng Xiao·ping (dun' shou'pin') 1904-97; Chin. Communist leader; held various official titles (1967-89); China's de facto ruler (c. 1981-97)

de·ni·al (dē nī'əl) *n.* 1 a denying; saying

"no" (to a request, etc.) 2 a contradiction 3 a refusal to believe or accept (a doctrine, etc.) 4 SELF-DENIAL

de·nier¹ (den'yər) *n.* [*< L deni*, by tens] a unit of weight for measuring the fineness of threads of silk, nylon, etc.

de·ni·er² (dē nī'ər) *n.* one who denies

den·i·grate (den'ə grāt') *vt.* -grat'ed, -grat'ing [*< L < de-*, entirely + *nigrare*, blacken] to belittle the character of; defame —**den'i·gra'tion** *n.*

den·im (den'im) *n.* [*< Fr (serge) de Nîmes*, (serge) of Nîmes, town in France] a coarse, twilled cotton cloth

den·i·zen (den'ə zən) *n.* [*< L de intus*, from within] an inhabitant or frequenter of a particular place

Den·mark (den'märk') country in Europe, on a peninsula & several islands in the North & Baltic seas: 16,631 sq. mi.; pop. 4,938,000

de·nom·i·nate (dē nām'ə nāt') *vt.* -nat'ed, -nat'ing [*< L de-*, intens. + *nominare*, to name] to name; call

de·nom'i·na'tion (-nā'shən) *n.* 1 the act of naming 2 a name 3 a class or kind, as of coins, having a specific name or value 4 a particular religious body

de·nom'i·na'tion·al *adj.* of, or under the control of, a religious denomination

de·nom'i·na'tor (-nāt'ər) *n.* 1 a shared characteristic 2 *Math.* the term below the line in a fraction

de·note (dē nōt') *vt.* -not'ed, -not'ing [*< L de-*, down + *notare*, to mark] 1 to indicate 2 to signify; mean —**de·no·ta·tion** (dē'nō tā'shən) *n.*

de·noue·ment or **dé·noue·ment** (dā' nōō măn') *n.* [*Fr*] the outcome or unraveling of a plot in a drama, story, etc.

de·nounce (dē nouns') *vt.* -nounced', -nounc'ing [*see DENUNCIATION*] 1 to accuse publicly; inform against 2 to condemn strongly and usually publicly —**de·nounce'ment** *n.*

dense (dens) *adj.* dens'er, dens'est [*< L densus*, compact] 1 packed tightly together 2 difficult to get through, penetrate, etc. 3 stupid —**dense'ly** *adv.* —**dense'ness** *n.*

den·si·ty (den'sə tē) *n., pl.* -ties 1 a dense condition 2 stupidity 3 number per unit, as of area [*population density*] 4 ratio of the mass of an object to its volume

dent (dent) *n.* [*ME*, var. of *DINT*] 1 a slight hollow made in a surface by a blow 2 a noticeable effect —*vt., vi.* to make or receive a dent (in)

den·tal (dent'l) *adj.* [*< L dens*, tooth] of or for the teeth or dentistry

dental floss thread for removing food particles from between the teeth

den·ti·frice (den'tə fris) *n.* [*< L dens*, tooth + *fricare*, rub] any preparation for cleaning teeth

den·tin (den'tin) *n.* [*see DENTAL*] the hard tissue under the enamel of a tooth: also **den'tine'** (-tēn', -tin)

den·tist (den'tist) *n.* one whose profession is the care and repair of teeth —**den'tist·ry** *n.*

den·ti·tion (den tish'ən) *n.* the arrangement of teeth in the mouth

den·ture (den'chər) *n.* [*see DENTAL*] [*often pl.*] a set of artificial teeth

de·nu·cle·ar·ize (dē nōō'klē ər iz') *vt.* -ized', -iz'ing to prohibit the possession of nuclear weapons in

de·nude (dē nōōd') *vt.* -nud'ed, -nud'ing [*< L de-*, off + *nudare*, to strip] to make bare or naked; strip

de·nun·ci·a·tion (dē nun'sē ā'shən) *n.* [*< L de-*, intens. + *nuntiare*, announce] the act of denouncing

Den·ver (den'vər) capital of Colorado: pop. 468,000

de·ny (dē nī') *vt.* -nied', -ny'ing [*< L de-*, intens. + *negare*, to deny] 1 to declare (a statement) untrue 2 to refuse to accept as true or right 3 to repudiate 4 to refuse to grant or give 5 to refuse the request of

de·o·dor·ant (dē ō'dər ənt) *adj.* that can counteract undesired odors —*n.* any deodorant preparation, esp. one for use on the body

de·o'dor·ize' (-dər iz') *vt.* -ized', -iz'ing to counteract the odor of —**de·o'dor·iz'er** *n.*

de·part (dē pärt') *vi.* [*< L dis-*, apart + *partire*, divide] 1 to go away; leave or set out 2 to die 3 to deviate (*from*) —*vt.* to leave

de·part'ed *adj.* 1 gone away 2 dead —the departed the dead

de·part·ment (dē pärt'mənt) *n.* 1 a separate part or division, as of a business 2 a field of activity —**de'part·men'tal** (-ment'l) *adj.*

de'part·men'tal·ize' (-mən't'l iz') *vt.* -ized', -iz'ing to organize into departments —**de'part·men'tal·i·za'tion** *n.*

department store a large retail store for the sale of many kinds of goods arranged in departments

de·par·ture (dē pär'chər) *n.* 1 a departing 2 a starting out, as on a trip 3 a deviation (*from*)

de·pend (dē pend') *vi.* [*< L de-*, down + *pendere*, to hang] 1 to be determined by something else; be contingent (*on*) 2 to have trust; rely (*on*) 3 to rely (*on*) for support or aid

de·pend'a·ble *adj.* trustworthy; reliable —**de·pend'a·bil'i·ty** *n.* —**de·pend'a·bly** *adv.*

de·pend'ence *n.* 1 a being dependent 2 reliance (*on*) for support or aid 3 reliance; trust 4 **DEPENDENCY** (sense 4)

de·pend'en·cy *n., pl.* -cies 1 dependence 2 something dependent 3 a territory, as a possession, subordinate to its governing country 4 addiction to alcohol or drugs

de·pend'ent *adj.* 1 hanging down 2 determined by something else 3 relying (*on*) for support, etc. 4 subordinate 5 addicted —*n.* one relying on another for support, etc. Also **de·pend'ant** —**de·pend'ent·ly** *adv.*

dependent clause *Gram.* a clause that cannot function as a complete sentence by itself

de·pict (dē pikt') *vt.* [*< L de-*, intens. + *pingere*, to paint] 1 to represent by

drawing, painting, etc. 2 to describe — **de-pic'tion** *n.*

de-pil-a-to-ry (di pil'ə tōr'ē) *adj.* [*< L de-, from + pilus, hair*] serving to remove unwanted hair — *n., pl. -ries* a depilatory substance or device

de-plane (dē plān') *vi.* -planed', -plan'ing to get out of an airplane after it lands

de-plete (dē plēt') *vt.* -plet'ed, -plet'ing [*< L de-, from + plere, fill*] 1 to use up (funds, etc.) 2 to use up the resources, etc. of — **de-ple'tion** *n.*

de-plor-a-ble (dē plōr'ə bəl) *adj.* regrettable, very bad, wretched, etc.

de-plore (dē plōr') *vt.* -plored', -plor'ing [*< L de-, intens. + plorare, weep*] 1 to be sorry about 2 to disapprove of

de-plot (dē plōt') *vt.* [*< L dis-, apart + plicare, to fold*] to spread out or position (troops, equipment, etc.) according to a plan — *vi.* to be deployed — **de-plot'ment** *n.*

de-po-lar-ize (dē pō'lər iz') *vt.* -ized', -iz'ing to destroy or counteract the polarization of — **de-po-lar-i-za'tion** *n.*

de-po-lit-i-cize (dē'pə lit'ə sīz') *vt.* -cized', -ciz'ing to remove from political influence

de-pon-ent (dē pōn'ənt) *n.* [*< L de-, down + ponere, put*] *Law* one who makes a deposition

de-pop-u-late (dē pāp'yə lāt') *vt.* -lat'ed, -lat'ing to reduce the population of — **de-pop'u-la'tion** *n.*

de-port (dē pōrt') *vt.* [*< L de-, from + portare, carry*] 1 to conduct (oneself) in a specified way 2 to expel (an alien) — **de-por-ta'tion** *n.*

de-port'ment *n.* conduct; behavior

de-pose (dē pōz') *vt.* -posed', -pos'ing [*< OFr de-, from + poser, cease*] 1 to remove from office 2 *Law* to take the deposition of

de-pos-it (dē pāz'it) *vt.* [*< L de-, down + ponere, put*] 1 to place (money, etc.) for safekeeping, as in a bank 2 to give as a pledge or partial payment 3 to put or set down 4 to cause (sediment, etc.) to settle — *n.* 1 something placed for safekeeping, as money in a bank 2 a pledge or partial payment 3 a natural accumulation, as of minerals — **de-pos'i-tor** *n.*

de-po-si-tion (dep'ə zish'ən) *n.* 1 a deposing or being deposed, as from office 2 something deposited 3 *Law* testimony made under oath that is written down for later use

de-pos-i-to-ry (dē pāz'ə tōr'ē) *n., pl. -ries* a place where things are put for safekeeping

de-pot (dē'pō; *military & Brit* dep'ō) *n.* [*< Fr: see DEPOSIT*] 1 a warehouse 2 a railroad or bus station 3 a storage place for military supplies

de-prave (dē prāv') *vt.* -praved', -prav'ing [*< L de-, intens. + pravus, crooked*] to make morally bad; corrupt — **de-praved'** *adj.* — **de-prav'i-ty** (-prav'ə tē), *pl. -ties, n.*

dep-re-cate (dep'rə kāt') *vt.* -cat'ed, -cat'ing [*< L de-, off + precari, pray*] 1

to express disapproval of 2 to belittle — **dep're-ca'tion** *n.* — **dep're-ca-to-ry** (-kə tōr'ē) *adj.*

de-pre-ci-ate (dē prē'shē āt') *vt., vi.* -at'ed, -at'ing [*< L de-, from + pretium, price*] 1 to lessen in value or price 2 to belittle — **de-pre'ci-a'tion** *n.*

dep-re-da-tion (dep'rə dā'shən) *n.* [*< L de-, intens. + praedari, to plunder*] a robbing or plundering

de-press (dē pres') *vt.* [*< L de-, down + premere, to press*] 1 to press down 2 to sadden or discourage 3 to weaken or make less active 4 to lower in value, price, etc. — **de-pressed'** *adj.*

de-pres'sant *n.* a medicine, drug, etc. that lessens nervous activity

de-pres-sion (dē presh'ən) *n.* 1 a depressing or being depressed 2 a hollow or low place 3 low spirits; dejection 4 a condition marked by hopelessness, self-doubt, lethargy, etc. 5 a decrease in force, activity, etc. 6 a period of reduced business, much unemployment, etc.

de-pres-sive (dē pres'iv) *adj.* 1 tending to depress 2 characterized by psychological depression — *n.* one suffering from psychological depression

de-pres-sur-ize (dē presh'ər iz') *vt.* -ized', -iz'ing to reduce pressure in

de-priv (dē prīv') *vt.* -prived', -priv'ing [*< L de-, intens. + privare, to separate*] 1 to take away from forcibly 2 to keep from having, etc. — **dep-ri-va-tion** (dep'rə vā'shən) *n.*

de-pro-gram (dē prō'gram', -grām) *vt.* -grammed' or -gramed', -gram'ming or -gram'ing to cause to abandon rigidly held beliefs, etc. by undoing the effects of indoctrination

dept *abbrev.* 1 department 2 deputy

depth (depth) *n.* [*< ME dep, deep + -TH¹*] 1 the distance from the top downward, or from front to back 2 deepness 3 intensity 4 profundity of thought 5 [*usually pl.*] the deepest or inmost part — **in depth** comprehensively

dep-u-ta-tion (dep'yō tā'shən) *n.* 1 a deputing 2 a delegation

de-pute (dē pyōt') *vt.* -put'ed, -put'ing [*< L de-, from + putare, cleanse*] 1 to give (authority, etc.) to a deputy 2 to appoint as one's substitute, etc.

dep-u-tize (dep'yō tīz') *vt.* -tized', -tiz'ing to appoint as deputy

dep-u-ty (dep'yō tē) *n., pl. -ties* a person appointed to act as a substitute or assistant

de-rail (dē rāl') *vt., vi.* to run off the rails, as a train — **de-rail'ment** *n.*

de-rail-leur (dē rāl'ər) *n.* [*Fr*] a gear-shifting mechanism on a bicycle for shifting the sprocket chain from one size of sprocket wheel to another

de-range (dē rānj') *vt.* -ranged', -rang'ing [*< OFr des-, apart + rengier, to range*] 1 to upset or disturb 2 to make insane — **de-range'ment** *n.*

Der-by (dər'bē; *Brit* dār'-) *n., pl. -bies* 1 [*after an Earl of Derby, who founded the race held in England*] any of various horse races, as ones held annually in England, Kentucky, etc. 2 [*d-*] any of various contests or races, open to

anyone 3 [d-] a stiff felt hat with a round crown

de-reg-u-late (dē reg'yə lāt') *vt.* -lat'ed, -lat'ing to remove regulations governing —**de-reg-u-la'tion** *n.*

der-e-lict (der'ə likt') *adj.* [*< L de-, intens. + relinquere: see RELINQUISH*] 1 deserted by the owner; abandoned 2 negligent —*n.* 1 an abandoned ship on the open sea 2 a destitute and rejected person

der'e-lic'tion (-lik'shən) *n.* 1 a forsaking or being forsaken 2 a neglect of, or failure in, duty

de-ride (di rīd') *vt.* -rid'ed, -rid'ing [*< L de-, down + ridere, to laugh*] to laugh at in scorn; ridicule —**de-ri'sion** (-rizh'ən) *n.* —**de-ri'sive** (-rī'siv) *adj.* —**de-ri'sive-ly** *adv.*

der-i-va-tion (der'ə vā'shən) *n.* 1 a deriving or being derived 2 the source or origin of something, specif. of a word

de-riv-a-tive (də riv'ə tiv) *adj.* derived; specif., not original or novel —*n.* something derived

de-rive (di rīv') *vt.* -rived', -riv'ing [*< L de-, from + rivus, a stream*] 1 to get or receive (something) *from* a source 2 to deduce or infer 3 to trace *from* or *to* a source —*vi.* to come (*from*)

der-ma-bra-sion (dər'mə brā'zhən) *n.* [*DERM(IS) + ABRASION*] the surgical procedure of scraping off upper layers of the skin with an abrasive device, to remove acne scars, blemishes, etc.

der-ma-ti-tis (dər'mə tīt'is) *n.* [*< Gr derma, skin + -ITIS*] inflammation of the skin

der-ma-tol-o-gy (dər'mə täl'ə jē) *n.* [*< Gr derma, skin + -LOGY*] the branch of medicine dealing with the skin —**der-ma-tol'o-gist** *n.*

der-mis (dər'mis) *n.* [*see EPIDERMIS*] the layer of skin just below the epidermis

der-o-gate (der'ə gāt') *vi., vt.* -gat'ed, -gat'ing [*< L de-, from + rogare, ask*] to detract (*from*) or disparage —**der'o-ga'tion** *n.*

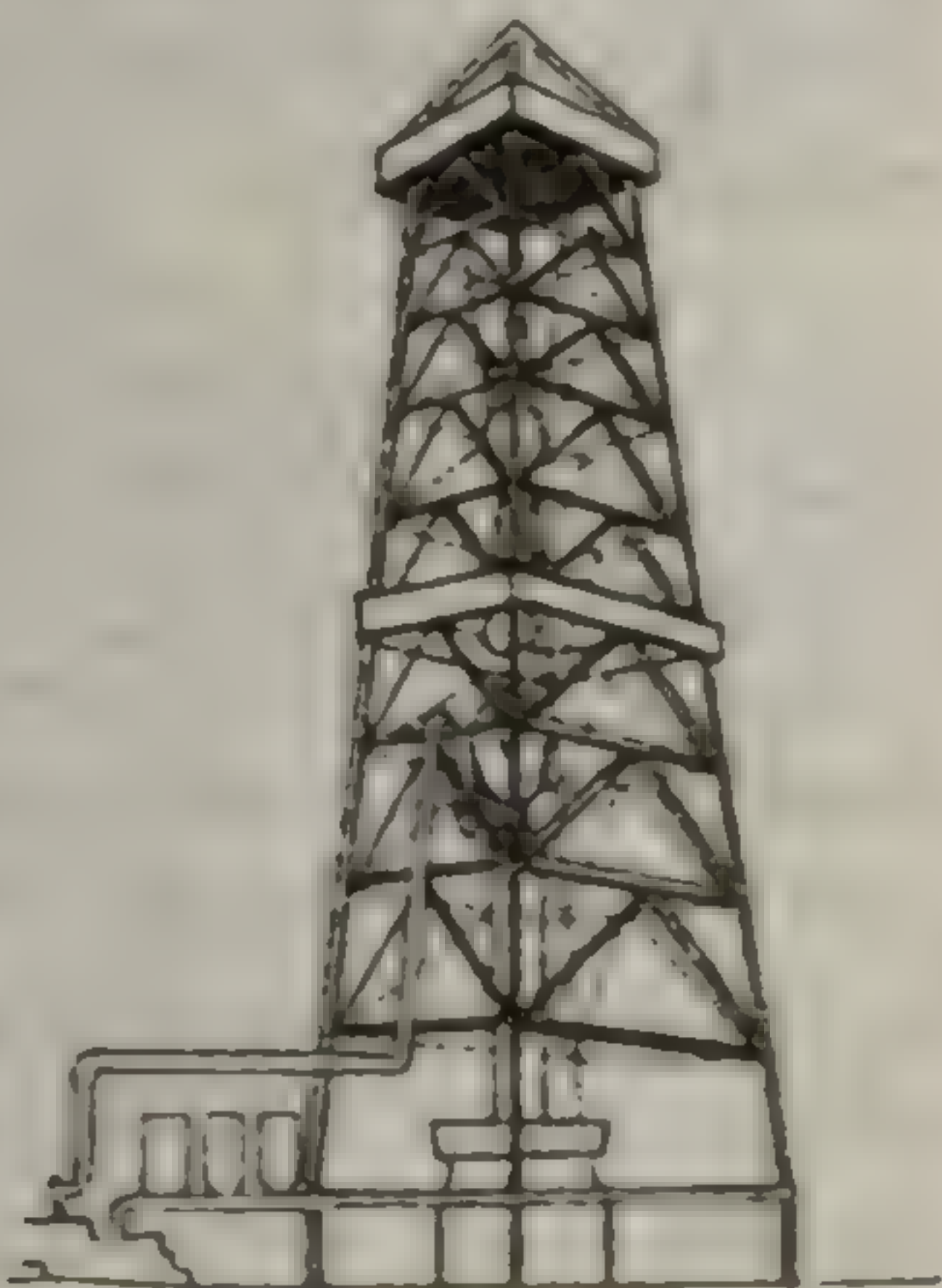
de-ro-g-a-to-ry (di räg'ə tōr'ē) *adj.* [*see prec.*] disparaging; belittling —**de-ro-g'a-to-ri-ly** *adv.*

der-rick (der'ik) *n.* [*after Thos. Derrick, London hangman of the early 17th c.: orig. applied to a gallows*] 1 a pivoted beam for lifting and moving heavy objects 2 a tall framework, as over an oil well, to support drilling machinery, etc.

der-ri-ère (der'ē er') *n.* [*Fr, back part*] the buttocks

der-rin-ger (der' in jər) *n.* [*after H. Deringer, 19th-c. U.S. gunsmith*] a small, short-barreled pistol

der-vish (dər'vish) *n.* [*< Pers darvësh, beggar*] a member of any of various



DERRICK
(sense 2)

Muslim ascetic religious groups

de-sal-i-na-tion (dē'sal'ə nā'shən) *n.* [*DE- + SALIN(E) + -ATION*] the removal of salt, esp. from sea water to make it drinkable —**de'sal'i-nate'**, -nat'ed, -nating, *vt.*

Des-cartes (dā kārt'), **Re-né** (rə nā') 1596-1650; Fr. philosopher

de-scend (dē send') *vi.* [*< L de-, down + scandere, climb*] 1 to move down to a lower place 2 to pass from an earlier to a later time, from greater to less, etc. 3 to slope downward 4 to come down (*from* a source) 5 to lower oneself or stoop (*to*) 6 to make a sudden raid (*on* or *upon*) —*vt.* to move down along

de-scend'ant (-sen'dənt) *n.* an offspring of a certain ancestor, family, group, etc.

de-scent' (-sent') *n.* 1 a coming down or going down 2 ancestry 3 a downward slope 4 a way down 5 a sudden attack (*on* or *upon*) 6 a decline

de-scribe (di skrib') *vt.* -scribed', -scrib'ing [*< L de-, from + scribere, write*] 1 to tell or write about 2 to trace the outline of —**de-scrib'er** *n.*

de-scrip-tion (di skrip'shən) *n.* 1 the act or technique of describing 2 a statement or passage that describes 3 sort; kind [*books of every description*] 4 a tracing or outlining —**de-scrip'tive** *adj.*

de-scry (di skri') *vt.* -scried', -scry'ing [*< OFr descrier, proclaim*] 1 to catch sight of; discern 2 to detect

des-e-crate (des'i krāt') *vt.* -crat'ed, -crat'ing [*DE- (sense 4) + (CON)SECRATE*] to violate the sacredness of; profane —**des'e-cra'tion** *n.*

de-seg-re-gate (dē seg'rə gāt') *vt., vi.* -gat'ed, -gat'ing to abolish racial segregation in (public schools, etc.) —**de-seg're-ga'tion** *n.*

de-sen-si-tize (dē sen'sə tīz') *vt.* -tized', -tiz'ing to make less sensitive, as to an allergen

de-sert¹ (di zərt') *vt., vi.* [*< L de-, from + serere, join*] 1 to abandon; forsake 2 to leave (one's military post, etc.) without permission and with no intent to return —**de-sert'er** *n.* —**de-ser'tion** (-zər'shən) *n.*

des-ert² (dez'ərt) *n.* [*see prec.*] 1 an uninhabited region; wilderness 2 a dry, barren, sandy region, often one that is hot —*adj.* wild and uninhabited [*a desert island*]

de-sert³ (di zərt') *n.* [*see fol.*] [*often pl.*] deserved reward or punishment [*one's just deserts*]

de-serve (di zurv') *vt., vi.* -served', -serv'ing [*< L de-, intens. + servire, serve*] to be worthy (of); merit —**de-serv'ed-ly** (-zər'vid lē) *adv.*

des-ic-cate (des'i kāt') *vt., vi.* -cat'ed, -cat'ing [*< L de-, intens. + siccus, dry*] to dry out completely —**des'ic-ca'tion** *n.*

de-sid-er-a-tum (di sid'ə rāt'əm) *n., pl.* -ta (-ə) [*see DESIRE*] something needed and wanted

de-sign (di zīn') *vt.* [*< L de-, out + signum, a mark*] 1 to sketch an outline for; plan 2 to contrive 3 to intend —*vi.*

to make original plans, etc. —*n.* 1 a plan; scheme 2 purpose; aim 3 a working plan; pattern 4 arrangement of parts, form, color, etc. —*by design* purposely —*de-sign'er n.*

des-ig-nate (dez'ig nāt') *vt.* -nat'ed, -nat'ing [see prec.] 1 to point out; specify 2 to name 3 to appoint — *des-ig-na'tion n.*

designated driver the one in a group who refrains from drinking alcoholic beverages so as to be able to safely transport the others in a motor vehicle

de-sign'ing *adj.* scheming; crafty —*n.* the art of creating designs, etc.

de-sir-a-ble (di zīr'ə bəl) *adj.* 1 worth having 2 arousing desire —*de-sir-a-bil'i-ty n.* —*de-sir'a-bly adv.*

de-sire (di zīr') *vt.* -sired', -sir'ing [L *desiderare*] 1 to long for; crave 2 to ask for —*vi.* to have a desire —*n.* 1 a wish; craving 2 sexual appetite 3 a request 4 a thing desired —*de-sir'ous adj.*

de-sist (di zist', -sist') *vi.* [L *de-*, from + *stare*, to stand] to cease; stop

desk (desk) *n.* [L *desca*, table] a piece of furniture with a flat surface for writing, etc. —*adj.* of, for, or at a desk [a desk job]

desk'top *n., adj.* (equipment, as a microcomputer) for use on a desk or table

desk-top publishing the production of printed matter by means of a microcomputer and special software for laying out text and illustrations

Des Moines (də moin') capital of Iowa: pop. 193,000

des-o-late (des'ə lit; for *v.*, -lāt') *adj.* [L *de-*, intens. + *solus*, alone] 1 lonely; solitary 2 uninhabited 3 laid waste 4 forlorn —*vt.* -lat'ed, -lat'ing 1 to rid of inhabitants 2 to lay waste 3 to make forlorn

des'o-la'tion *n.* 1 a making desolate 2 a desolate condition or place 3 misery 4 loneliness

de-spair (di sper') *vi.* [L *de-*, without + *sperare*, to hope] to lose hope —*n.* 1 loss of hope 2 a person or thing causing despair

des-patch (di spach') *vt., n.* DISPATCH

des-per-a-do (des'pər ä'dō, -ä'-) *n., pl.* -does or -dos [L 17th-c. Sp < L *desperare*: see DESPAIR] a dangerous criminal; bold outlaw

des-per-ate (des'pər it) *adj.* 1 rash or violent because of despair 2 having a very great need 3 very serious, dangerous, etc. 4 drastic —*des'per-ate-ly adv.*

des-per-a-tion (des'pər ä'shən) *n.* 1 the state of being desperate 2 recklessness resulting from despair

des-pi-ca-ble (di spik'ə bəl) *adj.* deserving scorn; contemptible

de-spise (di spīz') *vt.* -spised', -spis'ing [L *de-*, down + *specere*, look at] 1 to scorn 2 to loathe

de-spite (di spīt') *prep.* [see prec.] in spite of; notwithstanding

de-spoil (dē spoil') *vt.* [L *de-*, intens. +

spoliare, to strip] to rob; plunder —*de-spo-li-a-tion* (di spō'lē ä'shən) *n.*

de-spond-en-cy (di spän'dən sē) *n.* [L *de-*, from + *spondere*, to promise] loss of hope; dejection: also *de-spond'ence* — *de-spond'ent adj.*

des-pot (des'pət) *n.* [L *despotēs*, a master] 1 an absolute ruler 2 anyone like a tyrant —*des-pot'ic* (-pät'ik) *adj.* —*des'pot-ism* (-pə tiz'am) *n.*

des-sert (di zurt') *n.* [L *de-*, from + *servire*, serve] the final course of a meal, typically cake, pie, etc.

des-ti-na-tion (des'tə nā'shən) *n.* the place toward which one is going or sent

des-tine (des'tin) *vt.* -tined, -tin'ing [L *de-*, intens. + *stare*, to stand] 1 to predetermine, as by fate 2 to intend — *destined for* 1 headed for 2 intended for

des-ti-ny (des'tə nē) *n., pl.* -nies 1 the seemingly inevitable succession of events 2 (one's) fate

des-ti-tute (des'tə tōt') *adj.* [L *de-*, down + *statuere*, to set] 1 lacking: with of 2 totally impoverished —*des'ti-tu'tion n.*

de-stroy (di stroi') *vt.* [L *de-*, down + *struere*, to build] 1 to tear down; demolish 2 to ruin 3 to do away with 4 to kill

de-stroy'er *n.* 1 one that destroys 2 a small, fast warship

de-struct (di strukt', dē'strukt') *vi.* [L *fol.*] to be automatically destroyed

de-struc-tion (di struk'shən) *n.* 1 a destroying or being destroyed 2 the cause or means of destroying —*de-struc'tive adj.* —*de-struc'tive-ly adv.* — *de-struc'tive-ness n.*

des-ue-tude (des'wi tōd') *n.* [L *de-*, from + *suescere*, be accustomed] disuse

des-ul-to-ry (des'əl tōr'ē) *adj.* [L *de-*, from + *salire*, to leap] 1 aimless; disconnected 2 random

de-tach (dē tach') *vt.* [L *Fr.*: see DE- & ATTACH] 1 to unfasten and remove; disconnect; disengage 2 to send (troops, etc.) on a special mission —*de-tach'a-ble adj.*

de-tached *adj.* 1 not connected 2 aloof; disinterested; impartial

de-tach'ment *n.* 1 a detaching 2 a unit of troops, etc. on a special mission 3 impartiality or aloofness

de-tail (di tāl', dē'tāl') *n.* [L *Fr.* < *dé-*, from + *tailler*, to cut] 1 a dealing with things item by item 2 a minute account [to go into *detail*] 3 a small part; item 4 a) one or more soldiers, etc. on special duty b) the duty —*vt.* 1 to tell, item by item 2 to assign to special duty —*in detail* with particulars

de-tain (dē tān') *vt.* [L *de-*, off + *tenere*, to hold] 1 to keep in custody; confine 2 to keep from going on — *de'tain-ee* (-ē') *n.* —*de-tain'ment n.*

de-tect (dē tekt') *vt.* [L *de-*, from + *tegere*, to cover] to discover (something hidden, not clear, etc.) —*de-tect'a-ble* or *de-tect'i-ble adj.* —*de-tec'tion n.* — *de-tec'tor n.*

de-tec'tive (-tek'tiv) *n.* one whose work is to investigate crimes, uncover evi-

dence, etc.

de-tente or **de-tente** (dā tānt') *n.* [Fr] a lessening of tension, esp. between nations

de-ten-tion (dē ten'shən) *n.* 1 a detaining or being detained 2 the punishment of having to stay after school

detention home a place where juvenile offenders are held in custody

de-ter (dē tar') *vt.* -tered', -ter'ring [L *de-*, from + *terrere*, frighten] to keep or discourage (a person or group) from doing something through fear, doubt, etc. —**de-ter'ment** *n.* —**de-ter'rence** *n.*

de-ter-gent (dē tar'jənt) *adj.* [L *de-*, off + *tergere*, wipe] cleansing —*n.* cleansing substance that emulsifies dirt and oil

de-te-ri-o-rate (dē tir'ē ə rāt') *vt., vi.* -rated, -rating [L *deterior*, worse] to make or become worse —**de-te'ri-o-ra'tion** *n.*

de-ter-mi-nant (dē tar'mi nənt) *n.* a thing or factor that determines

de-ter'mi-nate (-nit) *adj.* clearly determined; fixed; settled

de-ter'mi-na'tion (-nā'shən) *n.* 1 a determining or being determined 2 a firm intention 3 firmness of purpose

de-ter'mine (-mən) *vt.* -mined, -min-ing [L *de-*, from + *terminus*, a limit] 1 to set limits to 2 to settle conclusively 3 to decide or decide upon 4 to affect the nature or quality of 5 to find out exactly —*vi.* to decide —**de-ter'mi-na-ble** *adj.*

de-ter'mined (-mənd) *adj.* 1 having one's mind made up 2 resolute; firm

de-ter'rent *adj.* deterring —*n.* something that deters

de-test (dē test') *vt.* [L *detestari*, to curse by the gods] to dislike intensely; hate —**de-test'a-ble** *adj.* —**de'tes-ta'tion** (-tes tā'shən) *n.*

de-thatch (dē thach') *vt.* to remove the thatch from (a lawn)

de-throne (dē thrōn') *vt.* -throned', -thron'ing to depose (a monarch)

det-o-nate (det'n āt') *vi., vt.* -nat'ed, -nat'ing [L *de-*, intens. + *tonare*, to thunder] to explode violently —**det'o-na'tion** *n.* —**det'o-na'tor** *n.*

de-tour (dē'toor') *n.* [L *de-*, from + *turnere*, to turn] 1 a roundabout way 2 a substitute route —*vi., vt.* to go or route on a detour

de-tox (dē tāks'; *for n.* dē'tāks') [Inf.] *vt.* short for DETOXIFY —*n.* short for DETOXIFICATION

de-tox-i-fy (dē tāk'si fī') *vt.* -fied', -fy'ing [DE- + TOXI(N) + -FY] 1 to remove a poison or poisonous effect from 2 to treat for drug or alcohol addiction —**de-tox'i-fi-ca'tion** *n.*

de-tract (dē trakt') *vt.* [L *de-*, from + *trahere*, to draw] to take away —*vi.* to take something desirable (from) —**de-trac'tion** *n.*

de-trac'tor (-trak'tər) *n.* one who disparages

det-ri-ment (de'trə mən't) *n.* [L *de-*, off + *terere*, to rub] 1 damage; injury 2 anything that causes this —**det-ri-men'tal** (-ment'l) *adj.*

de-tri-tus (dē trīt'əs) *n.* [L, a rubbing away: see prec.] debris, specif. rock fragments

De-troit (di troit') city & port in SE Michigan: pop. 1,028,000

deuce (dōs) *n.* [L *duo*, two] 1 a playing card or side of a die with two spots 2 *Tennis, Badminton, etc.* a tie score after which one side must score twice in a row to win

deu-te-ri-um (dō tir'ē əm) *n.* [L *deuteros*, second] a hydrogen isotope used in nuclear reactors

Deu-ter-on-o-my (dōt'ər ən'ə mē) *n.* [L *deuteros*, second + *nomos*, law] the fifth book of the Pentateuch

deutsche mark (doich' märk') the former monetary unit of Germany, superseded in 2002 by the EURO: also written **deutsche'mark'**

de-val-ue (dē val'yoo) *vt.* -ued, -u-ing 1 to lessen the value of 2 to lower the exchange value of (a currency) —**de-val'u-a'tion** *n.*

dev-as-tate (dev'ə stāt') *vt.* -tat'ed, -tat'ing [L *de-*, intens. + *vastus*, empty] 1 to lay waste; ravage; destroy 2 to make helpless; overwhelm —**dev'as-ta'tion** *n.* —**dev'as-ta'tor** *n.*

de-vel-op (di vel'əp) *vt.* [OFr *des-*, apart + *voloper*, to wrap] 1 to make fuller, bigger, better, etc. 2 to show or work out by degrees 3 to enlarge upon 4 *Photog.* to put (film, etc.) into chemicals to make the picture visible —*vi.* 1 to come into being or activity; occur 2 to become developed —**de-vel'op-er** *n.* —**de-vel'op-ment** *n.* —**de-vel'op-men'tal** (-ment'l) *adj.*

de-vi-ant (dē'vē ənt) *adj.* deviating, esp. from what is considered normal —*n.* one whose behavior is deviant —**de'vi-ance** or **de'vi-an-cy** *n.*

de-vi-ate (dē'vē āt'; *for adj. & n., -it*) *vi.* -at'ed, -at'ing [L *de-*, from + *via*, road] to turn aside (from a course, standard, etc.); diverge —*adj.* **DEVIANT** —*n.* a deviant, esp. in sexual behavior —**de'vi-a'tion** *n.* —**de'vi-a'tor** *n.*

de-vice (di vīs') *n.* [see DEVISE] 1 a thing devised; plan, scheme, or trick 2 a mechanical contrivance 3 an ornamental figure or design 4 an emblem, as on a coat of arms —**leave to one's own devices** to allow to do as one wishes

dev-il (dev'al) *n.* [ult. < Gr *diabolos*, slanderous] 1 *Theol.* a) [often D-] the chief evil spirit; Satan (with *the*) b) any evil spirit; demon 2 a very wicked person 3 a person who is mischievous, reckless, unlucky, etc. 4 anything hard to operate, control, etc. —*vt.* -iled or -illed, -il-ing or -il-ling 1 to prepare (food) with hot seasoning 2 to annoy; tease —**dev'il-ish** *adj.*

dev'il-fish' *n., pl.* -fish' or (for different species) -fish'es **MANTA**

dev'il-may-care' *adj.* careless or reckless

dev'il-ment *n.* mischievous action

devil's advocate a person upholding the wrong side for argument's sake

dev'il's-food' cake a rich chocolate cake

dev'il-try (-trē) *n.*, *pl.* -tries reckless mischief

de·vi·ous (dē'vē əs) *adj.* [*< L de-*, off + *via*, road] 1 not direct; roundabout or deviating 2 not straightforward; dishonest —**de'vi·ous·ness** *n.*

de·vise (di viz') *vt.*, *vi.* -vised', -vis'ing [*< L dividere*, to divide] 1 to work out or create (a plan, device, etc.) 2 *Law* to bequeath (real property) by a will —*n.* *Law* a bequest of property

de·vi·tal·ize (dē vīt' l iz') *vt.* -ized', -iz'ing to deprive of vitality

de·void (di void') *adj.* [*see DE- & VOID*] completely without; empty (*of*)

de·volve (di vāl'v', -vōlv') *vt.*, *vi.* -volved', -volv'ing [*< L de-*, down + *volvere*, to roll] 1 to pass (*on*) to another: said of duties, responsibilities, etc. 2 to degenerate —**dev·o·lu·tion** (dev'ə lōō'shən) *n.*

de·vote (di vōt') *vt.* -vot'ed, -vot'ing [*< L de-*, from + *vovere*, to vow] to set apart for or give up to some purpose, activity, or person; dedicate

de·vot'ed (-id) *adj.* very loving, loyal, or faithful —**de·vot'ed·ly** *adv.*

dev·o·tee (dev'ə tē', -tā') *n.* one who is strongly devoted to something

de·vo·tion (di vō'shən) *n.* 1 a devoting or being devoted 2 piety 3 religious worship 4 [*often pl.*] one or more prayers, etc. 5 loyalty or deep affection —**de·vo'tion·al** *adj.*

de·vour (di vour') *vt.* [*< L de-*, intens. + *vorare*, swallow whole] 1 to eat hungrily 2 to swallow up 3 to take in greedily, as with the eyes

de·vout (di vout') *adj.* [*see DEVOTE*] 1 very religious; pious 2 earnest; sincere —**de·vout'ly** *adv.*

dew (dōō) *n.* [*OE deaw*] 1 atmospheric moisture condensed in drops on cool surfaces at night 2 anything refreshing, pure, etc., like dew —**dew'y**, -i·er, -i·est, *adj.*

dew'ber'ry *n.*, *pl.* -ries 1 a trailing blackberry plant 2 its fruit

dew'drop' *n.* a drop of dew

dew'lap' *n.* [*see DEW & LAP¹*] loose skin under the throat of cattle, etc.

dew point the temperature at which water vapor in the air starts to condense into liquid

dex·ter·i·ty (deks ter'ə tē) *n.* [*see fol.*] skill in using one's hands, body, or mind

dex·ter·ous (deks'tər əs, -trəs) *adj.* [*< L dexter*, right] having or showing dexterity: also **dex'trous**

dex·trose (deks'trōs') *n.* a glucose found in plants and animals

Dhak·a (dāk'ə, dak'ə) capital of Bangladesh: pop. 3,459,000

dho·ti (dō'tē) *n.* [*Hindi dhotī*] a loin-cloth worn by Hindu men

dhur·rie or **dur·rie** (dur'ē, du'rē) *n.* a coarse rug woven in India

di⁻¹ [*Gr di-* < *dis-*, twice] *prefix* twice, double, twofold

di⁻² *prefix* DIS-

di·a·be·tes (dī'ə bēt'ēz', -is) *n.* [*< Gr diabainein*, to pass through] a disease caused by an insulin deficiency and characterized by excess sugar in the blood and urine: also **sugar diabetes** — **dī·a·bet'ic** (-bet'ik) *adj.*, *n.*

di·a·bol·ic (dī'ə bāl'ik) *adj.* [*see DEVIL*] very wicked or cruel; fiendish: also **dī·a·bol'i·cal**

di·a·crit·i·cal mark (dī'ə krit'i kəl) [*< Gr dia-*, across + *krinein*, discern] a mark, as a macron, put on a letter or symbol to show pronunciation, etc.: also **dī·a·crit'ic** *n.*

di·a·dem (dī'ə dem') *n.* [*< Gr diadēma*, a band, fillet] 1 a crown 2 an ornamental headband

di·ag·nose (dī'æg nōs') *vt.*, *vi.* -nosed', -nos'ing to make a diagnosis (*of*)

di'ag·no'sis (-nō'sis) *n.*, *pl.* -ses' (-sēz') [*< Gr dia-*, through + *gignoskein*, to know] 1 the act of deciding the nature of a disease, situation, problem, etc. by examination and analysis 2 the resulting decision —**dī'ag·nos'tic** (-nās'tik) *adj.* —**dī'ag·nos·ti'cian** (-tish'ən) *n.*

di·ag·o·nal (dī ag'ə nəl, -ag'nəl) *adj.* [*< Gr dia-*, through + *gōnia*, an angle] 1 extending slantingly between opposite corners 2 slanting; oblique —*n.* a diagonal line, plane, course, part, etc. —**di·ag'o·nal·ly** *adv.*

di·a·gram (dī'ə gram') *n.* [*< Gr dia-*, across + *graphein*, write] a sketch, plan, graph, etc. that explains something, as by outlining its parts —*vt.* -**gramed'** or -**grammed'**, -**gram'ing** or -**gram'ming** to make a diagram of

di·al¹ (dī'əl) *n.* [*< L dies*, day] 1 the face of a clock, etc. 2 the face of a meter, etc., for indicating, as by a pointer, an amount, direction, etc. 3 a graduated disk, strip, knob, etc., as on a radio or TV for tuning in stations, etc. 4 a rotating disk, or set of numbered push buttons, on a telephone, used to make automatic connections —*vt.*, *vi.* -**aled** or -**alled**, -**al·ing** or -**al·ling** 1 to tune in (a radio station, etc.) 2 to call by using a telephone dial

dial² *abbrev.* 1 dialect(al) 2 dialectic(al)

di·a·lect (dī'ə lekt') *n.* [*< Gr dia-*, between + *legein*, to talk] the form of a spoken language peculiar to a region, social group, etc. —**dī·a·lec'tal** *adj.*

di·a·lec·tic (dī'ə lek'tik) *n.* 1 [*often pl.*] the practice of examining ideas logically 2 logical argumentation —*adj.* DIALECTICAL

dī·a·lec'ti·cal (-ti kəl) *adj.* 1 of or using dialectic 2 of a dialect

di·a·logue (dī'ə lôg', -lāg') *n.* [*see DIALECT*] 1 interchange of ideas by open discussion 2 the passages of talk in a play, story, etc. Also *sp.* **dī·a·log'**

di·al·y·sis (dī al'ə sis) *n.*, *pl.* -ses' (-sēz') [*< Gr dia-*, apart + *lyein*, dissolve] the separation of smaller dissolved molecules from the larger molecules in a solution by diffusion through a membrane: used in purifying the blood of those with impaired kidney function

di·am·e·ter (dī am'ət ər) *n.* [*< Gr dia-*, through + *metron*, a measure] 1 a line segment passing through the center of

a circle, sphere, etc. from one side to the other 2 its length

di·a·met·ri·cal (dī'ə me'tri kəl) *adj.* designating an opposite, a difference, etc. that is wholly so; complete

di·a·mond (dī'mənd, dī'ə mənd) *n.* [**<** Gr *adamas*] 1 nearly pure, colorless, crystalline carbon, the hardest mineral known, used for gems or cutting tools 2 a gem or other piece cut from this 3 *a*) a conventionalized figure of a diamond (◇) *b*) any of a suit of playing cards marked with such figures in red 4 *Baseball* the infield or the whole field — *adj.* 1 of a diamond 2 marking the 60th, or sometimes 75th, year

di'a·mond·back' *n.* a large, poisonous rattlesnake of the S U.S.

Di·an·a (dī an'ə) *n.* *Rom. Myth.* the goddess of the moon and of hunting

di·a·pa·son (dī'ə pā'zən) *n.* [**<** Gr *dia*, through + *pas*, all] an organ stop covering the instrument's entire range

di·a·per (dī'pər, dī'ə pər) *n.* [**<** ML *diasprum*, flowered cloth] a soft, absorbent cloth folded and arranged between the legs and around the waist of a baby — *vt.* to put a diaper on (a baby)

di·aph·a·nous (dī af'ə nəs) *adj.* [**<** Gr *dia*-, through + *phainein*, to show] transparent or translucent

di·a·phragm (dī'ə fram') *n.* [**<** Gr *dia*-, through + *phragma*, fence] 1 the muscular partition between the chest cavity and abdominal cavity 2 a vibrating disk producing sound waves 3 a vaginal contraceptive device

di·ar·rhe·a (dī'ə rē'ə) *n.* [**<** Gr *dia*-, through + *rhein*, to flow] too frequent and loose bowel movements: chiefly Brit. sp. **di'ar·rhoe'a**

di·a·ry (dī'ə rē) *n.*, *pl.* -ries [**<** L *dies*, day] a daily written record of the writer's experiences, etc. — **di'a·rist** *n.*

di·a·stase (dī'ə stās') *n.* [**<** Gr *dia*, apart + *histanai*, stand] an enzyme in the seed of grains and malt capable of changing starches into dextrose

di·as·to·le (dī as'tə lē') *n.* [**<** Gr *dia*-, apart + *stellein*, put] the usual rhythmic expansion of the heart — **di·a·stol·ic** (dī'ə stāl'ik) *adj.*

di·a·ther·my (dī'ə thər'mē) *n.* [**<** Gr *dia*-, through + *thermē*, heat] medical treatment by means of heat produced under the skin, as by radiation

di·a·tom (dī'ə tām') *n.* [**<** Gr *diatomos*, cut in two] any of various microscopic algae that are an important source of food for marine life

di·a·tom·ic (dī'ə tām'ik) *adj.* [**DI**-1 + **ATOMIC**] having two atoms or radicals in the molecule

di·a·ton·ic (dī'ə tən'ik) *adj.* [**<** Gr *dia*-, through + *teinein*, to stretch] *Music* designating or of a scale of eight tones that is either a MAJOR SCALE or a MINOR SCALE

di·a·tribe (dī'ə trīb') *n.* [**<** Gr *dia*-, through + *tribein*, to rub] a bitter, abusive denunciation

dib·ble (dib'əl) *n.* [**ME** *dibbel*] a pointed tool used for making holes in the soil for seeds, bulbs, etc.

dice (dis) *pl.n.*, *sing.* **die** or **dice** [**see**

DIE²] small cubes marked on each side with a different number of spots (from one to six), used in games of chance — *vi.* **diced**, **dic'ing** to play or gamble with dice — *vt.* to cut (vegetables, etc.) into small cubes — **no dice** [**Inf.**] 1 no: used in refusing a request 2 no luck

di·chot·o·my (dī kät'ə mē) *n.*, *pl.* -mies [**<** Gr *dicha*, in two + *temnein*, to cut] division into two parts or groups

dick (dik) *n.* [**Slang**] a detective

Dick·ens (dik'ənz), Charles (chärلز) (pseud. *Boz*) 1812-70; Eng. novelist

dick·er (dik'ər) *vi.* [**ult.** **<** L *decem*, ten] to bargain or haggle

dick·ey (dik'ē) *n.*, *pl.* -eys [**<** nickname *Dick*] 1 a detachable shirt front 2 a small bird: also **dickey bird** Also **dick'y**, *pl.* -ies

Dick·in·son (dik'in sən), Em·i·ly (em'ə lē) 1830-86; U.S. poet

di·cot·y·le·don (dī'kät'ə lēd'n) *n.* a plant with two seed leaves (*cotyledons*): also **di'cot'** — **di'cot'y·le'don·ous** *adj.*

Dic·ta·phone (dik'tə fōn') [**fol.** + **-PHONE**] trademark for a machine that records and plays back speech for typed transcripts, etc. — *n.* [sometimes **d-**] any such machine

dic·tate (dik'tāt') *vt.*, *vi.* -tat'ed, -tat'ing [**<** L *dicere*, speak] 1 to speak (something) aloud for someone else to write down 2 to command forcefully 3 to give (orders) with authority — *n.* an authoritative order — **dic·ta'tion** *n.*

dic'ta'tor *n.* one who dictates; esp., a ruler or tyrant with absolute power — **dic'ta·to'ri·al** (-tə tōr'ē əl) *adj.* — **dic'ta'tor·ship'** *n.*

dic·tion (dik'shən) *n.* [**<** L *dicere*, say] 1 manner of expression in words; wording 2 enunciation

dic·tion·ar·y (dik'shə nər'ē) *n.*, *pl.* -aries [**see** prec.] a book of alphabetically listed words in a language, with definitions, pronunciations, etc.

dic·tum (dik'təm) *n.*, *pl.* -tums or -ta (-tə) [**<** L *dicere*, say] a formal statement of opinion; pronouncement

did (did) *vt.*, *vi.* *pt.* of **DO**¹

di·dac·tic (dī dak'tik) *adj.* [**<** Gr *didaskhein*, teach] 1 intended for instruction 2 morally instructive

did·dle (did'l) *vt.*, *vi.* -dled, -dling [**<** ?] [**Inf.**] 1 to cheat 2 to waste (time) in trifling — **did'dler** *n.*

di·do (dī'dō) *n.*, *pl.* -does or -dos [**<** ?] [**Inf.**] a mischievous or foolish action

die¹ (dī) *vi.* **died**, **dy'ing** [**<** ON *deyja*] 1 to stop living 2 to stop functioning; end 3 to lose force or activity 4 [**Inf.**] to wish very much [*I'm dying to go*] — **die away** (or **down**) to cease gradually — **die off** to die one by one until all are gone — **die out** to stop existing

die² (dī) *n.*, *pl.* for 2, **dies** (diz) [**<** L *dare*, give] 1 *sing.* of **DICE** 2 a tool for shaping, punching, etc. metal or other material

die'·hard' or **die'hard'** *n.* a person stubbornly resistant to new ideas, reform, etc.

di·e·lec·tric (dī'ī lek'trik) *n.* [*< dia-*, across + *ELECTRIC*] a material that does not conduct electricity

di·er·e·sis (dī er'ə sis) *n.*, *pl.* -ses' (-sēz') [*< Gr dia-*, apart + *hairein*, to take] a mark (·) placed over the second of two consecutive vowels to show that it is pronounced separately

die·sel (dē'zəl, -səl) *n.* [after R. Diesel (1858-1913), Ger inventor] [often *D-*] an internal-combustion engine that burns oil ignited by heat from air compression: also **diesel engine** (or **motor**) —*vi.* to continue to run after the ignition is turned off: said of an internal-combustion engine

di·et¹ (dī'ət) *n.* [*< Gr diaita*, way of life] 1 what a person or animal usually eats or drinks 2 a special or limited selection of food and drink, chosen or prescribed as to bring about weight loss —*vi.*, *vt.* to adhere to or place on a diet — **di'et·er** *n.* — **di'e·tar'y** (-ə ter'ē) *adj.*

di·et² (dī'ət) *n.* [*< ML dieta*] 1 a formal assembly 2 in some countries, a legislative assembly

di'e·tet'ic (-ə tet'ik) *adj.* of or for a particular diet of food and drink

di'e·tet'ics (-iks) *n.* the study of the kinds and quantities of food needed for health

di·e·ti·tian (dī'ə tish'ən) *n.* an expert in dietetics

dif- *prefix* DIS-: used before *f*

dif·fer (dif'ər) *vi.* [*< L dis-*, apart + *ferre*, to bring] 1 to be unlike or not the same 2 to be of opposite or unlike opinions; disagree

dif·fer·ence (dif'ər əns, dif'rəns) *n.* 1 a being different 2 the way in which people or things are different 3 a differing in opinion; disagreement 4 a dispute 5 *Math.* the amount by which one quantity is less than another

dif'fer·ent *adj.* 1 not alike 2 not the same 3 various 4 unusual — **dif'fer·ent·ly** *adv.*

dif·fer·en·tial (dif'ər en'shəl) *adj.* of, showing, or constituting a difference — *n.* 1 a differentiating amount, degree, etc. 2 a differential gear

differential gear (or **gearing**) a gear arrangement allowing one axle of an automobile to turn faster than the other

dif'fer·en'ti·ate' (-shē āt') *vt.* -at'ed, -at'ing 1 to constitute a difference in or between 2 to make unlike 3 to distinguish between —*vi.* 1 to become different or differentiated 2 to note a difference — **dif'fer·en'ti·a'tion** *n.*

dif·fi·cult (dif'i kult', -kəlt) *adj.* 1 hard to do, understand, etc. 2 hard to satisfy, deal with, etc.

dif'fi·cul'ty *n.*, *pl.* -ties [*< L dis-*, not + *facilis*, easy] 1 a being difficult 2 something difficult, as a problem, obstacle, or objection 3 trouble

dif'fi·dent (-dənt) *adj.* [*< L dis-*, not + *fidere*, to trust] lacking self-confidence; shy — **dif'fi·dence** *n.*

dif·frac·tion (di frak'shən) *n.* [*< L dis-*, apart + *frangere*, to break] 1 the

breaking up of light waves as into the colors of the spectrum 2 a similar breaking up as of sound waves

dif·fuse (di fyōōs'; *for v.*, -fyōōz') *adj.* [*< L dis-*, apart + *fundere*, to pour] 1 spread out; not concentrated 2 using more words than are needed —*vt.*, *vi.* -fused', -fus'ing to pour in every direction; spread widely — **dif·fuse'ly** *adv.* — **dif·fuse'ness** *n.* — **dif·fu'sion** *n.* — **dif·fu'sive** *adj.*

dig (dig) *vt.* dug, dig'ging [*< OFr < Du dijk*, dike] 1 to turn up or remove (ground, etc.) with a spade, the hands, etc. 2 to make (a hole, etc.) by digging 3 to get out by digging 4 to find out, as by careful study 5 to jab 6 [Slang] *a*) to understand *b*) to like —*vi.* 1 to dig the ground 2 to make a way by digging —*n.* 1 [Inf.] *a*) a poke, nudge, etc. *b*) a taunt 2 an archaeological excavation — **dig'ger** *n.*

di·gest (dī'jest'; *for v.* di jest', dī-) *n.* [*< L di-*, apart + *gerere*, to carry] an organized collection of condensed information; summary —*vt.* 1 to summarize 2 to change (food taken into the body) into an absorbable form 3 to absorb mentally —*vi.* to undergo digestion — **di·gest'i·ble** *adj.*

di·ges'tion *n.* 1 a digesting or being digested 2 the ability to digest — **di·ges'tive** *adj.*

dig·it (dij'it) *n.* [*< L digitus*, a finger] 1 a finger or toe 2 any number from 0 to 9

dig·i·tal (dij'i təl, -it'l) *adj.* 1 of or like a digit 2 using a row of digits, rather than numbers on a dial [*a digital watch*] 3 designating, of, or used by a computer that processes data represented by groups of electronic bits 4 designating a recording technique in which sounds or images are converted into electronic bits: the bits are read electronically, as by a laser beam, for reproduction

dig·i·tal·is (dij'i tal'is) *n.* [ModL, foxglove: see DIGIT] 1 a plant with long spikes of thimblelike flowers; foxglove 2 a medicine made from the leaves of the purple foxglove, used as a heart stimulant

dig·i·tize (dij'i tīz') *vt.* -tized', -tiz'ing to translate (analog data) into digital data

dig·ni·fied (dig'nə fīd') *adj.* having or showing dignity

dig·ni·fy (dig'nə fī') *vt.* -fied', -fy'ing [*< L dignus*, worthy + *facere*, make] to give dignity to; exalt

dig'ni·tar'y (-ter'ē) *n.*, *pl.* -tar'ies [*< L dignitas*, dignity] a person holding a high position or office

dig'ni·ty (-tē) *n.*, *pl.* -ties [*< L dignus*, worthy] 1 honorable quality; worthiness 2 high reputation or honor, or the degree of this 3 a high position, rank, or title 4 stately appearance or manner 5 self-respect

di·graph (dī'graf') *n.* a combination of two letters to represent one sound (Ex.: read, graphic)

di·gress (di gres', dī-) *vi.* [*< L dis-*, apart + *gradi*, to go] to wander temporarily from the subject, in talking or writing

—di-gres'sion (-gresh'an) *n.* —di-gres'sive *adj.*

Di-jon mustard (dē zhăn', dē'zhăn') [after *Dijon*, city in France] a mild mustard paste blended with white wine

dike (dik) *n.* [OE *dic*, ditch] an embankment or dam made to prevent flooding as by the sea

di-lap-i-dat-ed (də lap'ə dāt'id) *adj.* [< L *dis-*, apart + *lapidare*, throw stones at] falling to pieces; broken down —**di-lap'i-da'tion** *n.*

di-late (dī'lāt', dī lāt') *vt.* -lat'ed, -lat'ing [< L *dis-*, apart + *latus*, wide] to make wider or larger —*vi.* 1 to become wider or larger 2 to speak or write in detail (on or upon a subject) —**di-la'tion** or **dil-a-tion** (dil'ə tā'shən) *n.*

dil-a-to-ry (dil'ə tōr'ē) *adj.* [see prec.] 1 causing delay 2 inclined to delay; slow; tardy —**dil'a-to'ri-ness** *n.*

di-lem-ma (di lem'ə) *n.* [< LGr *di-*, two + *lēmma*, proposition] 1 any situation requiring a choice between unpleasant alternatives 2 any serious problem

dil-et-tante (dil'ə tānt', dil'ə tānt') *n.*, *pl.* -tantes' or -tan'ti' (-tī', -tē) [It < L *delectare*, to delight] one who dabbles in an art, science, etc. in a superficial way —**dil'et-tant'ish** *adj.* —**dil'et-tant'ism** *n.*

dil-i-gent (dil'ə jənt) *adj.* [< L *di-*, apart + *legere*, choose] 1 persevering and careful in work; hard-working 2 done carefully —**dil'i-gence** *n.* —**dil'i-gent-ly** *adv.*

dill (dil) *n.* [OE *dile*] an herb related to parsley, with bitter seeds and aromatic leaves, used to flavor pickles, soups, etc.

dil-ly (dil'ē) *n.*, *pl.* -lies [? < DEL(IGHTFUL) + -Y²] [Slang] a remarkable person or thing

dil-ly-dal-ly (dil'ē dal'ē) *vi.* -lied, -ly-ing [< DALLY] to waste time by hesitating; loiter or dawdle

di-lute (di lōōt', dī-) *vt.* -lut'ed, -lut'ing [< L *dis-*, off + *lavare*, to wash] to thin down or weaken as by mixing with water —*adj.* diluted —**di-lu'tion** *n.*

dim¹ (dim) *adj.* **dim'mer**, **dim'mest** [OE] 1 not bright, clear, or distinct; dull, obscure, etc. 2 not seeing, hearing, or understanding clearly 3 [Inf.] stupid —*vt.*, *vi.* **dimmed**, **dim'ming** to make or grow dim —**dim'ly** *adv.* —**dim'ness** *n.*

dim² *abbrev.* diminutive

dime (dīm) *n.* [< L *decem*, ten] a U.S. or Canadian 10-cent coin

di-men-sion (də men'shən) *n.* [< L *dis-*, off, from + *metiri*, to measure] 1 any measurable extent, as length, width, or depth 2 [*pl.*] measurements in length, width, and often depth 3 [often *pl.*] extent; scope —**di-men'sion-al** *adj.*

dime store FIVE-AND-TEN-CENT STORE

di-min-ish (də min'ish) *vt.*, *vi.* [< L *diminuere*, reduce] to make or become smaller in size, degree, importance, etc.; lessen —**dim-i-nu-tion** (dim'ə nōō'shən, -nyōō'-) *n.*

di-min-u-en-do (də min'yōō en'dō) *adj.*, *adv.* [It: see prec.] Music with gradually diminishing volume: also written **di-min'u-en'do**

di-min-u-tive (də min'yōō tiv) *adj.* [see DIMINISH] very small; tiny —*n.* a word having a suffix that expresses smallness, endearment, etc. (Ex.: *piglet*)

dim-i-ty (dim'ə tē) *n.*, *pl.* -ties [< Gr *dis-*, two + *mitos*, a thread] a thin, corded or patterned cotton cloth

dim'mer *n.* a device, as a rheostat, for dimming electric lights

dim-ple (dim'pəl) *n.* [ME *dimpel*] a small, natural hollow, as on the cheek or chin —*vi.*, *vt.* -pled, -pling to form dimples (in) —**dim'ply** (-plē) *adj.*

dim sum (dim' sum', -soom') [Chin] small dumplings filled with meat, vegetables, etc.; also, a light meal of these together with other foods

dim'wit *n.* [Slang] a stupid person; simpleton —**dim'witted** *adj.*

din (din) *n.* [OE *dyne*] a loud, continuous noise; confused uproar —*vt.* **dinned**, **din'ning** to repeat insistently or noisily —*vi.* to make a din

din-din (din'din') *n.* [Inf.] dinner

dine (dīn) *vi.* **dined**, **din'ing** [ult. < L *dis-*, away + *jejunus*, hungry] to eat dinner —*vt.* to provide a dinner for

din-er (dīn'ər) *n.* 1 a person eating dinner 2 a railroad car equipped to serve meals 3 a small restaurant built to look like such a car

di-nette (dī net') *n.* an alcove or small space used as a dining room

ding (dɪŋ) *n.* [< Scand] the sound of a bell: also **ding'-dong'** (-dōŋ')

din-ghy (din'gē) *n.*, *pl.* -ghies [Hindi *dīngi*] any of various small boats, as one carried on a ship

din-gle (din'gəl) *n.* [ME *dingel*, abyss] a small, deep, wooded valley

din-go (din'gō) *n.*, *pl.* -goes [native name] the Australian wild dog, usually tawny in color

ding-us (din'əs) *n.* [< Du *ding*, thing] [Inf.] any device; gadget

din-gy (din'jē) *adj.* -gi-er, -gi-est [orig. dial. var. < DUNG] 1 not bright or clean; grimy 2 dismal; shabby —**din'gi-ness** *n.*

dining room a room where meals are eaten

dink-y (din'kē) *adj.* -i-er, -i-est [< Scot *dink*, trim] [Inf.] small and unimportant

din-ner (din'ər) *n.* [see DINE] 1 the main meal of the day 2 a banquet in honor of a person or event

dinner jacket a tuxedo jacket

din'ner-ware *n.* plates, cups, saucers, etc., collectively

di-no-saur (dī'nə sōr') *n.* [< Gr *deinos*, terrible + *sauros*, lizard] an extinct prehistoric reptile, often huge

dint (dint) *n.* [OE *dynt*] force; exertion: now chiefly in **by dint of**

di-o-cese (dī'ə sis, -sēz') *n.* [< Gr *dioikein*, to keep house] the district under a bishop's jurisdiction —**di-oc'e-san** (-ās'ə sən) *adj.*

di-ode (dī'ōd') *n.* [DI- + -ODE] an electron tube used esp. to convert alternating current into direct current

Di·og·e·nes (dī äj'ə nēz') 412?-323? B.C.; Gr. philosopher

Di·o·ny·sus or **Di·o·ny·sos** (dī'ə nī'səs) *n.* Gr. Myth. the god of wine and revelry

di·o·ram·a (dī'ə ram'ə) *n.* [*<* Gr. *dia-*, through + *horama*, a view] a scenic display, as of three-dimensional figures against a painted background

di·ox·in (dī äk'sin) *n.* a highly toxic chemical contaminant found in some herbicides

dip (dip) *vt.* **dipped**, **dip'ping** [*OE dyppan*] 1 to immerse briefly 2 to scoop (liquid) up or out 3 to lower (a flag, etc.) and immediately raise again —*vi.* 1 to plunge into a liquid and quickly come out 2 to sink suddenly 3 to decline slightly 4 to slope down 5 to lower a container, the hand, etc. as into water 6 to read or inquire superficially: with *into* —*n.* 1 a dipping or being dipped 2 a brief plunge into water, etc. 3 a liquid, sauce, etc. into which something is dipped 4 a portion removed by dipping 5 a downward slope or plunge

diph·the·ri·a (dif thir'ē ə, dip-) *n.* [*<* Gr *diphthera*, leather] an acute infectious disease marked by high fever and difficult breathing

diph·thong (dif'thôn; often dip'-) *n.* [*<* Gr *di-*, two + *phthongos*, a sound] a sound made by gliding from one vowel to another within one syllable, as the sound (oi) in *oil*

di·plo·ma (də plō'mə) *n.* [*<* Gr *diplōma*, folded letter] a certificate issued by a school, college, etc. indicating graduation or the conferring of a degree

di·plo'ma·cy (-sē) *n.* 1 the conducting of relations between nations 2 tact

dip·lo·mat (dip'lə mat') *n.* 1 a representative of a government who conducts relations with another government 2 a tactful person

dip'lo·mat'ic *adj.* 1 of diplomacy 2 tactful —**dip'lo·mat'i·cal·ly** *adv.*

di·pole (dī'pōl') *n.* a kind of radio or TV antenna with a single line separated at the center for connection to the receiver

dip·per (dip'ər) *n.* a long-handled cup, etc. for dipping

dip·so·ma·ni·a (dip'sə mā'nē ə) *n.* [*<* Gr *dipsa*, thirst + *mania*, madness] an abnormal craving for alcoholic drink — **dip'so·ma·ni·ac** (-ak') *n.*

dip'stick *n.* a graduated rod for measuring quantity or depth

dir *abbrev.* director

dire (dir) *adj.* **dir'er**, **dir'est** [*L dirus*] 1 dreadful; terrible: also **dire'ful** 2 urgent [a *dire* need]

di·rect (də rekt'; also dī-) *adj.* [*<* L *di-*, apart + *regere*, to rule] 1 not roundabout or interrupted; straight 2 honest; frank [a *direct* answer] 3 with nothing between; immediate 4 in an unbroken line of descent; lineal 5 exact; complete [the *direct* opposite] 6 in the exact words [a *direct* quote] —*vt.* 1 to manage; guide 2 to order; command 3 to turn or point; aim; head 4 to tell (a person) the way to a place 5 to address (a letter, etc.) 6 *a*) to plan and

supervise the action and effects of (a play, film, etc.) *b*) to conduct the performance of (a choir, band, etc.) —*adv.* directly —**di·rect'ness** *n.*

direct current an electric current flowing in one direction

di·rec·tion (də rek'shən; also dī-) *n.* 1 a directing 2 [usually *pl.*] instructions for doing, using, etc. 3 a command 4 the point toward which something faces or the line along which it moves or lies —**di·rec'tion·al** *adj.*

di·rec'tive (-rek'tiv) *adj.* directing —*n.* a general order issued authoritatively

di·rect'ly *adv.* 1 in a direct way or line; straight 2 with nothing or no one between [*directly* responsible] 3 exactly [*directly* opposite] 4 instantly; right away

direct object *Gram.* the word or words denoting the receiver of the action of a transitive verb (Ex.: *me* in "he saw me")

di·rec'tor (-rek'tər) *n.* one who directs a school, corporation, etc. or a play, choir, etc. —**di·rec'tor·ship** *n.*

di·rec'tor·ate (-it) *n.* 1 the position of director 2 a board of directors

di·rec'to·ry (-tə rē) *n., pl. -ries* a book listing the names, addresses, etc. of a specific group of persons

dirge (dərj) *n.* [*<* L *dirige* (direct), first word of a prayer] a song, poem, etc. of grief or mourning

dir·i·gi·ble (dir'ə jə bəl, də rij'ə-) *n.* [see DIRECT & -IBLE] AIRSHIP

dirk (dərk) *n.* [*<* ?] a long dagger

dirn·dl (dər'n'dəl) *n.* [*<* Ger *dirne*, girl] a full skirt gathered at the waist

dirt (dɜrt) *n.* [*<* ON *drita*, excrement] 1 any unclean matter, as mud or trash; filth 2 earth; soil 3 dirtiness, corruption, etc. 4 obscenity 5 malicious gossip

dirt'·cheap *adj., adv.* [Inf.] very inexpensive(ly)

dirt'·poor *adj.* extremely poor

dirt'y *adj.* -i·er, -i·est 1 not clean 2 obscene 3 contemptible or nasty 4 unfair; dishonest 5 showing anger [a *dirty* look] 6 rough [*dirty* weather] —*vt., vi.* **dirt'ied**, **dirt'y·ing** to make or become dirty —**dir'ti·ly** *adv.* —**dirt'i·ness** *n.*

dis (dis) *vt.* **dissed**, **dis'sing** [Slang] to insult

dis- [*<* L] *prefix* separation, negation, reversal [*disbar*, *disable*, *disintegrate*]

dis·a·bil·i·ty (dis'ə bil'ə tē) *n., pl. -ties* 1 a disabled condition 2 that which disables, as an illness or physical limitation

dis·a·ble (dis ā'bəl) *vt.* -bled, -bling to make unable or unfit; cripple; incapacitate

dis·a'bled *adj.* having a physical or mental disability

dis·a·buse (dis'ə byōōz') *vt.* -bused', -bus'ing to rid of false ideas

dis·ad·van·tage (dis'əd vant'ij) *n.* 1 an unfavorable situation or circumstance 2 detriment —**dis'ad·van·ta'geous** (-ad'vən tā'jəs) *adj.*

dis'ad·van'taged *adj.* underprivileged

dis·af·fect (dis'ə fekt') *vt.* to make

unfriendly, discontented, or disloyal — **dis'af-fect'ed** *adj.* — **dis'af-fec'tion** *n.*

dis'af-fil'i-ate' (-ə fil'ē āt') *vt., vi.* -at'ed, -at'ing to end an affiliation (with) — **dis'af-fil'i-a'tion** *n.*

dis'a-gree' (-ə grē') *vi.* -greet', -gree'ing 1 to fail to agree; differ 2 to differ in opinion 3 to give distress: with *with* [plums disagree with me] — **dis'a-gree'ment** *n.*

dis'a-gree'a-ble *adj.* 1 unpleasant; offensive 2 quarrelsome — **dis'a-gree'a-bly** *adv.*

dis-al-low (dis'ə lou') *vt.* to refuse to allow (a claim, etc.); reject

dis'ap-pear' (-ə pir') *vi.* 1 to cease to be seen; vanish 2 to cease existing — **dis'ap-pear'ance** *n.*

dis'ap-point' (-ə point') *vt.* to fail to satisfy the hopes or expectations of — **dis'ap-point'ment** *n.*

dis-ap-pro-ba-tion (dis'ap'rə bā'shən) *n.* disapproval

dis-ap-prove (dis'ə prōv') *vt., vi.* -proved', -prov'ing 1 to have or express an unfavorable opinion (of) 2 to refuse to approve — **dis'ap-prov'al** *n.* — **dis'ap-prov'ing-ly** *adv.*

dis-arm (dis ärm') *vt.* 1 to take away weapons from 2 to make harmless 3 to make friendly — *vi.* to reduce armed forces and armaments — **dis-ar'ma-ment** (-är'mə mənt) *n.*

dis-ar-range (dis'ə rānj') *vt.* -ranged', -rang'ing to undo the order of; make less neat

dis'ar-ray' (-ə rā') *n.* disorder

dis'as-sem'ble (-ə sem'bəl) *vt.* -bled, -bling to take apart

dis'as-so'ci-ate' (-ə sō'shē āt', -sē-) *vt.* -at'ed, -at'ing to disconnect or separate; dissociate

dis-as-ter (di zas'tər) *n.* [*< L dis-*, away + *astrum*, a star] any happening that causes great harm or damage; calamity — **dis-as'trous** (-trəs) *adj.*

dis-a-vow (dis'ə vou') *vt.* to deny any knowledge of or responsibility for; disclaim — **dis'a-vow'al** *n.*

dis-band (dis band') *vt., vi.* to break up: said as of an organization or its members

dis-bar' (-bär') *vt.* -barred', -bar'ring to deprive (a lawyer) of the right to practice law — **dis-bar'ment** *n.*

dis-be-lieve (dis'bə lēv') *vt., vi.* -lieved', -liev'ing to refuse to believe — **dis'be-lief'** (-lēf') *n.*

dis-burse (dis burs') *vt.* -bursed', -burs'ing [*< OFr desbourser*] to pay out; expend — **dis-burse'ment** *n.* — **dis-burs'er** *n.*

disc (disk) *n.* 1 DISK 2 a phonograph record

dis-card (dis kărd'; *for n.* dis'kărd') *vt.* [*< OFr: see DIS- & CARD¹*] 1 *Card Games* to remove (a card or cards) from one's hand 2 to get rid of as no longer useful — *n.* 1 a discarding or being discarded 2 something discarded

disc brake a brake, as on a car, with two friction pads that press on a disc rotating with the wheel

dis-cern (di surn', -zurn') *vt.* [*< L dis-*,

apart + *cernere*, to separate] to perceive or recognize clearly — **dis-cern'i-ble** *adj.* — **dis-cern'ment** *n.*

dis-cern'ing *adj.* having good judgment; astute

dis-charge (dis chärj'; *also, and for n. usually, dis'chärj'*) *vt.* -charged', -charg'ing [*< L dis-*, from + *carrus*, wagon] 1 to release or dismiss 2 to unload (a cargo) 3 to shoot (a gun or projectile) 4 to emit [to discharge pus] 5 to pay (a debt) or perform (a duty) 6 *Elec.* to remove stored energy from (a battery, etc.) — *vi.* 1 to get rid of a load, etc. 2 to go off, as a gun — *n.* 1 a discharging or being discharged 2 that which discharges or is discharged

dis-ci-ple (di sī'pəl) *n.* [*< L dis-*, apart + *capere*, to hold] 1 a pupil or follower of any teacher or school 2 an early follower of Jesus, esp. one of the Apostles — **dis-ci'ple-ship** *n.*

dis-ci-pli-nar-i-an (dis'ə pli ner'ē ən) *n.* a person who believes in or enforces strict discipline

dis-ci-pline (dis'ə plin') *n.* [see DISCIPLINE] 1 a branch of learning 2 training that develops self-control, efficiency, etc. 3 strict control to enforce obedience 4 self-control 5 a system of rules, as for a church 6 treatment that corrects or punishes — *vt.* -plined', -plin'ing 1 to train; control 2 to punish — **dis'ci-pli-nary** (-pli ner'ē) *adj.*

disc jockey one who conducts a radio program of recorded music

dis-claim (dis klām') *vt.* 1 to give up any claim to 2 to repudiate; deny

dis-claim'er *n.* a denial or renunciation, as of responsibility

dis-close (dis klōz') *vt.* -closed', -clos'ing to reveal — **dis-clo'sure** (-klō'zhər) *n.*

dis-co (dis'kō) *n.* 1 *pl.* -cos a place for dancing to recorded music 2 a kind of popular dance music with a strong beat

dis-col-or (dis kul'ər) *vt., vi.* to change in color as by fading, streaking, or staining: *Brit. sp.* **dis-col'our** — **dis'col-or-a'tion** *n.*

dis-com-fit (dis kum'fit) *vt.* [*< L dis-*, away + *conficere*, prepare] to frustrate or disconcert — **dis-com'fi-ture** (-fi chər) *n.*

dis-com-fort (dis kum'fərt) *n.* 1 lack of comfort; uneasiness 2 anything causing this — *vt.* to cause discomfort to

dis-com-mode (dis'kə mōd') *vt.* -mod'ed, -mod'ing [*< DIS- + L com-modare*, to make suitable] to cause bother to; inconvenience

dis'com-pose' (-kəm pōz') *vt.* -posed', -pos'ing to disturb; fluster — **dis'com-po'sure** (-pō'zhər) *n.*

dis'con-cert' (-kən sɜrt') *vt.* to upset; embarrass

dis'con-nect' (-kə nekt') *vt.* to break the connection of; separate — **dis'con-nec'tion** *n.*

dis'con-nect'ed *adj.* 1 separated 2 incoherent

dis-con-so-late (dis kən'sə lit) *adj.* [see DIS- & CONSOLE¹] inconsolable; dejected — **dis-con'so-late-ly** *adv.*

dis-con-tent (dis'kən tent') *adj.* [[ME] DISCONTENTED —*n.* dissatisfaction with one's situation: also **dis'con-tent'ment** —*vt.* to make discontented

dis'con-tent'ed *adj.* not contented; wanting something more or different

dis-con-tin-ue (dis'kən tin'yoo) *vt., vi.* -ued, -u-ing to stop; cease; give up — **dis'con-tin'u-ance** or **dis'con-tin'u-a'tion** *n.*

dis'con-tin'u-ous (-yoo əs) *adj.* not continuous; having interruptions or gaps

dis-cord (dis'kôrd') *n.* [[< L *dis-*, apart + *cor*, heart]] 1 disagreement 2 harsh noise 3 a lack of musical harmony — **dis-cord'ant** *adj.*

dis-co-thèque (dis'kə tek') *n.* [[Fr] DISCO (sense 1)]

dis-count (dis'kount'; *for v., also dis kount'*) *n.* [[see DIS- & COMPUTE]] 1 a reduction from a usual or list price 2 the rate of interest charged on a discounted bill, note, etc.: also called **dis-count rate** —*vt.* 1 to pay or receive the value of (a bill, promissory note, etc.), minus a deduction for interest 2 to deduct an amount from (a bill, price, etc.) 3 to sell at less than the regular price 4 *a)* to allow for exaggeration, bias, etc. in (a story, etc.) *b)* to disregard 5 to lessen the effect of by anticipating

dis-coun-te-nance (dis kount'n əns) *vt.* -nanced, -nanc-ing 1 to make ashamed or embarrassed 2 to refuse approval or support

discount house (or **store**) a retail store that sells goods for less than regular prices

dis-cour-age (di skur'ij) *vt.* -aged, -ag-ing 1 to deprive of courage or confidence 2 to persuade (a person) to refrain 3 to try to prevent by disapproving — **dis-cour'age-ment** *n.*

dis-course (dis'kôrs'; *also, and for v. usually, dis kôrs'*) *n.* [[< L *dis-*, from + *currere*, to run]] 1 talk; conversation 2 a formal treatment of a subject, in speech or writing —*vi.* -coursed', -cours'ing to talk; confer

dis-cour-te-ous (dis kur'tē əs) *adj.* impolite; rude; ill-mannered

dis-cour'te-sy (-kurt'ə sē) *n.* 1 lack of courtesy 2 *pl.* -sies a rude or impolite act or remark

dis-cov-er (di skuv'ər) *vt.* [[see DIS- & COVER]] 1 to be the first to find out, see, etc. 2 to learn of the existence of — **dis-cov'er-er** *n.*

dis-cov-er-y (di skuv'ər ē) *n., pl.* -er-ies 1 a discovering 2 anything discovered

dis-cred-it (dis kred'it) *vt.* 1 to disbelieve 2 to cast doubt on 3 to disgrace —*n.* 1 loss of belief; doubt 2 disgrace — **dis-cred'it-a-ble** *adj.*

dis-creet (di skrēt') *adj.* [[see DISCERN]] careful about what one says or does; prudent — **dis-creet'ly** *adv.*

dis-crep-an-cy (di skrep'ən sē) *n., pl.* -cies [[< L *dis-*, from + *crepare*, to rattle]] (a) lack of agreement; inconsistency

dis-crete (di skrēt') *adj.* [[see DISCERN]] separate and distinct; unrelated

dis-cre-tion (di skresh'an) *n.* 1 the freedom to make decisions 2 the quality of being discreet; prudence — **dis-cre'tion-ary** *adj.*

dis-crim-i-nate (di skrim'i nāt') *vi.* -nat'ed, -nat'ing [[see DISCERN]] 1 to distinguish 2 to make distinctions in treatment; show partiality or prejudice — **dis-crim'i-nat'ing** *adj.* — **dis-crim'i-na'tion** *n.*

dis-crim'i-na-to'ry (-nə tōr'ē) *adj.* showing discrimination or bias

dis-cur-sive (di skur'siv) *adj.* [[see DISCOURSE]] wandering from one topic to another; rambling



DISCUS

dis-cus (dis'kəs) *n.* [[< Gr *diskos*]] a heavy disk, usually of metal and wood, thrown for distance at a track meet

dis-cuss (di skus') *vt.* [[< L *dis-*, apart + *quaterē*, to shake]] to talk or write about; consider the pros and cons of — **dis-cus'sion** (-skush'an) *n.*

dis-cuss'ant (-ənt) *n.* a participant in an organized discussion

dis-dain (dis dān') *vt.* [[< L *dis-*, DIS- + *dignari*, deign]] to regard as beneath one's dignity; scorn —*n.* aloof contempt — **dis-dain'ful** *adj.*

dis-ease (di zēz') *n.* [[< OFr *des-*, DIS- + *aise*, ease]] 1 illness in general 2 a particular destructive process in an organism; specif., an illness 3 any harmful condition, as of society — **dis-eased'** *adj.*

dis-em-bark (dis'im bārk') *vi., vt.* to leave, or unload from, a ship, aircraft, etc. — **dis'em-bar-ka'tion** *n.*

dis'em-bod'y (-im bād'ē) *vt.* -bod'ied, -bod'y-ing to free from bodily existence — **dis'em-bod'i-ment** *n.*

dis'em-bow'el (-im bou'al) *vt.* -eled or -elled, -el-ing or -el-ling to take out the entrails of

dis'en-chant' (-in chant') *vt.* 1 to free from an enchantment or illusion 2 DISILLUSION (sense 2) — **dis'en-chant'ment** *n.*

dis'en-cum'ber (-in kum'bər) *vt.* to relieve of a burden

dis-en-fran-chise (dis'in fran'chīz') *vt.* -chised', -chis'ing to deprive of a right, privilege, etc., esp. the right to vote

dis'en-gage' (-in gāj') *vt., vi.* -gaged', -gag'ing to release or get loose from something that engages, holds, entangles, etc.; unfasten — **dis'en-gage'ment** *n.*

dis'en-tan'gle (-in tan'gəl) *vt.* -gled,

-gling to free from something that entangles, confuses, etc.; extricate; untangle

dis'es-teem' (-i stēm') *n.* lack of esteem; disfavor

dis-fa-vor (dis fā'vər) *n.* 1 an unfavorable opinion; dislike; disapproval 2 the state of being disliked, etc.

dis-fig'ure (-fig'yər) *vt.* -ured, -ur-ing to hurt the appearance of; deface —**dis-fig'ure-ment** *n.*

dis-gorge' (-gôrj') *vt., vi.* -gorged', -gorg'ing [*< OFr: see DIS- & GORGE*] 1 to vomit 2 to pour forth (its contents); empty (itself)

dis-grace' (-grās') *n.* [*< It dis-, not + grazia, favor*] 1 loss of favor or respect; shame; disrepute 2 a person or thing bringing shame —*vt.* -graced', -grac'ing to bring shame or dishonor upon —**dis-grace'ful** *adj.*

dis-grun'tle (-grunt'l) *vt.* -tled, -tling [*ult. < DIS- + GRUNT*] to make peevishly discontented; make sullen

dis-guise' (-gīz') *vt.* -guised', -guis'ing [*< OFr: see DIS- & GUISE*] 1 to make appear, sound, etc. so different as to be unrecognizable 2 to hide the real nature of —*n.* 1 anything that disguises 2 a being disguised

dis-gust' (-gust') *n.* [*< DIS- + L gustus, a taste*] a sickening dislike —*vt.* to cause to feel disgust —**dis-gust'ed** *adj.* —**dis-gust'ing** *adj.*

dish (dish) *n.* [*see DISCUS*] 1 a container, generally shallow and concave, for holding food 2 as much as a dish holds 3 a particular kind of food 4 any dishlike object —*vt.* to serve in a dish: with *up* or *out* —**dish it out** [*Slang*] to subject others to criticism, etc.

dis-ha-bille (dis'ə bēl') *n.* [*< Fr dés-, DIS- + habiller, to dress*] the state of being dressed only partially or in night clothes

dish antenna a radio or TV antenna with a dish-shaped reflector

dis-har-mo-ny (dis här'mə nē) *n.* absence of harmony; discord —**dis-har-mo'ni-ous** (-mō'nē əs) *adj.*

dish'cloth' *n.* a cloth for washing dishes, etc.

dis-heart-en (dis härt'n) *vt.* to discourage; depress —**dis-heart'en-ing** *adj.*

di-shev-el (di shev'əl) *vt.* -eled or -elled, -el-ing or -el-ling [*< OFr des-, DIS- + chevel, hair*] to cause (hair, clothing, etc.) to become disarranged; rumple —**di-shev'el-ment** *n.*

dis-hon-est (dis än'ist) *adj.* not honest; lying, cheating, etc. —**dis-hon'est-ly** *adv.*

dis-hon'es-ty *n.* 1 a being dishonest 2 *pl.* -ties a dishonest act

dis-hon-or (dis än'ər) *n.* 1 loss of honor or respect; shame; disgrace 2 a cause of dishonor —*vt.* 1 to insult or disgrace 2 to refuse to pay (a check, etc.) —**dis-hon'or-a-ble** *adj.*

dish'pan' *n.* a pan in which dishes, cups, etc. are washed

dish'rag' *n.* DISHCLOTH

dish'wash'er *n.* a person or machine that washes dishes, cups, etc.

dis-il-lu-sion (dis'i lōō'zhən) *vt.* 1 to free from illusion 2 to take away the idealism of and make bitter, etc. —**dis'il-lu'sion-ment** *n.*

dis-in-clined (dis'in klīnd') *adj.* unwilling; reluctant

dis-in-fect (dis'in fekt') *vt.* to destroy the harmful bacteria, viruses, etc. in —**dis'in-fect'ant** *n.*

dis'in-for-ma'tion (-in'fər mǎ'shən) *n.* deliberately false information leaked so as to confuse another nation's intelligence operations

dis-in-gen-u-ous (dis'in jen'yō əs) *adj.* not candid or frank; insincere

dis-in-her-it (dis'in her'it) *vt.* to deprive of an inheritance

dis-in-te-grate (dis in'tə grāt') *vt., vi.* -grat'ed, -grat'ing 1 to separate into parts or fragments; break up 2 to undergo nuclear transformation —**dis-in'te-gra'tion** *n.*

dis-in-ter (dis'in tər') *vt.* -tered', -ter'ring to remove from a grave, etc.; exhume

dis-in-ter-est-ed (dis in'trəs tid, -int'ər əs tid) *adj.* 1 impartial; unbiased 2 uninterested; indifferent

dis'in-ter-me'di-a'tion (-in'tər mē'dē ā'shən) *n.* the withdrawal of funds from banks to invest them at higher rates of interest, as in government securities

dis-joint' (-joint') *vt.* 1 to put out of joint; dislocate 2 to dismember 3 to destroy the unity, connections, etc. of —**dis-joint'ed** *adj.*

disk (disk) *n.* [*L discus: see DISCUS*] 1 any thin, flat, circular thing 2 DISC 3 a thin, flat, circular plate coated with magnetic particles, for storing computer data 4 a layer of fibrous cartilage between adjacent vertebrae

disk-ette (di sket') *n.* FLOPPY DISK

dis-like (dis lik') *vt.* -liked', -lik'ing to have a feeling of not liking —*n.* a feeling of not liking

dis-lo-cate (dis'lō kāt') *vt.* -cat'ed, -cat'ing 1 to displace (a bone) from its proper position 2 to disarrange; disrupt —**dis'lo-ca'tion** *n.*

dis-lodge (dis lāj') *vt.* -lodged', -lodg'ing to force from a place

dis-loy'al (-loi'əl) *adj.* not loyal or faithful —**dis-loy'al-ty** *n.*

dis-mal (diz'məl) *adj.* [*< ML dies mali, evil days*] 1 causing gloom or misery 2 dark and gloomy

dis-man-tle (dis mant'l) *vt.* -tled, -tling [*see DIS- & MANTLE*] 1 to strip (a ship, etc.), as of equipment 2 to take apart —**dis-man'tle-ment** *n.*

dis-may' (-mā') *vt.* [*< Anglo-Fr*] to make startled and discouraged by some problem, etc. difficult to resolve —*n.* upset and discouragement caused by a problem, etc. difficult to resolve

dis-mem'ber (-mem'bər) *vt.* [*see DIS- & MEMBER*] 1 to cut or tear the limbs from 2 to pull or cut to pieces —**dis-mem'ber-ment** *n.*

dis-miss' (-mis') *vt.* [*< L dis-, from + mittere, send*] 1 to cause or allow to

leave 2 to discharge from employment, etc. 3 to put aside mentally 4 *Law* to reject (a claim, etc.) —**dis-miss'al** *n.*

dis-mis'sive (-mis'iv) *adj.* condescending in dismissing from consideration

dis-mount' (-mount') *vi.* to get off, as from a horse —*vt.* 1 to remove (a thing) from its mounting 2 to take apart; dismantle

dis-o-be-di-ence (dis'ō bē'dē əns) *n.* refusal to obey; insubordination —**dis'o-be'di-ent** *adj.*

dis'o-bey' (-ō bā') *vt., vi.* to refuse to obey

dis'o-blige' (-ə blīj') *vt.* -bliged', -blig'ing 1 to refuse to oblige 2 to offend

dis-or'der (-ôr'dər) *n.* 1 a lack of order; confusion 2 a breach of public peace; riot 3 an ailment —*vt.* 1 to throw into disorder 2 to upset the normal functions of

dis-or'der-ly *adj.* 1 untidy 2 violating public peace, safety, etc. —**dis-or'der-li-ness** *n.*

dis-or-gan-ize (dis ôr'gə nīz') *vt.* -ized', -iz'ing to break up the order or system of; throw into confusion —**dis-or-gan-i-za'tion** *n.*

dis-o'ri-ent' (-ôr'ē ent') *vt.* [see DIS- & ORIENT, *v.*] 1 to cause to lose one's bearings 2 to confuse mentally —**dis-o'ri-en-ta'tion** *n.*

dis-own' (-ōn') *vt.* to refuse to acknowledge as one's own; repudiate

dis-par-age (di spar'ij) *vt.* -aged, -ag-ing [see DIS- & POSITION] 1 to discredit 2 to belittle —**dis-par-age-ment** *n.*

dis-pa-rate (dis'pə rət) *adj.* [see DIS-, not + *par*, equal] distinct or different in kind; unequal —**dis-par-i-ty** (di spar'ə tē), *pl.* -ties, *n.*

dis-pas-sion-ate (dis pash'ə nət) *adj.* free from passion or bias; impartial —**dis-pas'sion-ate-ly** *adv.*

dis-patch (di spach'; *for n., also* -dis'pach') *vt.* [see DIS-, away + *pes*, foot] 1 to send promptly, as on an errand 2 to kill 3 to finish quickly —*n.* 1 a sending off 2 a killing 3 speed; promptness 4 a message 5 a news story sent by a reporter —**dis-patch'er** *n.*

dis-pel (di spel') *vt.* -pelled', -pel'ling [see DIS-, apart + *pellere*, to drive] to scatter and drive away

dis-pen-sa-ble (di spen'sə bəl) *adj.* 1 that can be dealt out 2 that can be dispensed with; not important

dis-pen'sa-ry (-sə rē) *n., pl.* -ries a room or place where medicines and first-aid treatment are available

dis-pen-sa-tion (dis'pən sâ'shən) *n.* 1 a dispensing 2 something dispensed 3 an administrative system 4 a release from an obligation 5 *Theol.* the ordering of events under divine authority

dis-pense (di spens') *vt.* -pensed', -pens'ing [see DIS-, out + *pendere*, weigh] 1 to give out; distribute 2 to prepare and give out (medicines) 3 to administer (the law or justice) —**dis-pense with** 1 to get rid of 2 to do with-

out —**dis-pens'er** *n.*

dis-perse' (-spərs') *vt.* -persed', -pers'ing [see DIS-, out + *spargere*, scatter] 1 to break up and scatter 2 to dispel (mist, etc.) —*vi.* to scatter —**dis-per'sal** *n.* —**dis-per'sion** *n.*

dis-pir-it (di spir'it) *vt.* to depress; discourage —**dis-pir'it-ed** *adj.*

dis-place (dis 'plās') *vt.* -placed', -plac'ing 1 to move from its usual place 2 to remove from office; discharge 3 to replace

displaced person one forced from one's country, esp. as a result of war

dis-place'ment *n.* 1 a displacing or being displaced 2 the weight or volume of air, water, or other fluid displaced by a floating object

dis-play (di splā') *vt.* [see DIS-, apart + *plicare*, to fold] 1 [Obs.] to spread out; unfold 2 to exhibit —*n.* 1 an exhibition 2 anything displayed

dis-please (dis plēz') *vt., vi.* -pleased', -pleas'ing to fail to please; offend

dis-pleas'ure (-plezh'ər) *n.* a being displeased

dis-port (di spôrt') *vi.* [see DIS- & POSITION] to play; frolic —*vt.* to amuse (oneself)

dis-pos-al (di spō'zəl) *n.* 1 a disposing 2 a device in the drain of a kitchen sink to grind up garbage

dis-pose' (-spōz') *vt.* -posed', -pos'ing [see DIS- & POSITION] 1 to arrange 2 to settle (affairs) 3 to make willing; incline —**dispose of** 1 to settle 2 to give away or sell 3 to get rid of —**dis-pos'a-ble** *adj.*

dis-po-si-tion (dis'pə zish'ən) *n.* 1 arrangement 2 management of affairs 3 a selling or giving away 4 the authority to settle, etc.; control 5 a tendency 6 one's temperament

dis'pos-sess' (-pə zes') *vt.* to deprive of the possession of land, a house, etc.; oust

dis-praise' (-prāz') *vt.* -praised', -prais'ing [see DIS- & POSITION] to blame; censure —*n.* blame

dis'pro-portion (-prə pōr'shən) *n.* a lack of proportion —**dis'pro-portion-al** or **dis'pro-portion-ate** *adj.*

dis-prove' (-prōv') *vt.* -proved', -proved' or -prov'en, -prov'ing to prove to be false

dis-pu-ta-tion (dis'pyōō tā'shən) *n.* 1 a disputing 2 debate

dis'pu-ta'tious (-pyōō tā'shəs) *adj.* inclined to dispute; contentious —**dis'pu-ta'tious-ly** *adv.*

dis-pute (di spyōōt') *vi.* -put'ed, -put'ing [see DIS-, apart + *putare*, to think] 1 to argue; debate 2 to quarrel —*vt.* 1 to argue (a question) 2 to doubt 3 to oppose in any way —*n.* 1 a disputing; debate 2 a quarrel —**in dispute** not settled —**dis-put'a-ble** *adj.* —**dis-pu'tant** *adj., n.*

dis-qual-i-fy (dis kwōl'ə fī') *vt.* -fied', -fy'ing to make or declare unqualified, unfit, or ineligible —**dis-qual'i-fi-ca'tion** *n.*

dis-qui-et (dis kwī'et) *vt.* to make uneasy; disturb —*n.* restlessness; also

dis·qui'e·tude' (-ə tōd') *n.*

dis·qui·si·tion (dis'kwi zish'an) *n.* [*< L dis-*, apart + *quaerere*, to seek] a formal discussion; treatise

dis·re·gard (dis'ri gärd') *vt.* 1 to pay little or no attention to 2 to treat without due respect —*n.* 1 lack of attention 2 lack of due regard or respect

dis're·pair' (-ri per') *n.* the condition of needing repairs; state of neglect

dis·rep'u·ta·ble (-rep'yō tā bəl) *adj.* 1 not reputable 2 not fit to be seen

dis're·pute' (-ri pyōt') *n.* lack or loss of repute; bad reputation; disgrace

dis're·spect' (-ri spekt') *n.* lack of respect; discourtesy —**dis're·spect'ful** *adj.*

dis·robe (dis rōb') *vt., vi.* -robed', -rob'ing to undress

dis·rupt (dis rupt') *vt., vi.* [*< L dis-*, apart + *rumpere*, to break] 1 to break apart 2 to disturb or interrupt —**dis·rup'tion** *n.* —**dis·rup'tive** *adj.*

dis·sat'is·fy' (-sat'is fī') *vt.* -fied', -fy'ing to fail to satisfy; displease —**dis·satis·fac'tion** *n.*

dis·sect (di sekt') *vt.* [*< L dis-*, apart + *secare*, to cut] 1 to cut apart piece by piece, as a body for purposes of study 2 to examine or analyze closely —**dis·sec'tion** *n.* —**dis·sec'tor** *n.*

dis·sem·ble (di sem'bəl) *vt., vi.* -bled, -bling [*< OFr dessembler*] to conceal (the truth, one's feelings, motives, etc.) under a false appearance —**dis·sem'blance** *n.* —**dis·sem'bler** *n.*

dis·sem·i·nate (di sem'ə nāt') *vt.* -nat'ed, -nat'ing [*< L dis-*, apart + *seminare*, to sow] to scatter about; spread widely —**dis·sem'i·na'tion** *n.*

dis·sen·sion (di sen'shən) *n.* a dissenting; disagreement or quarreling

dis·sent (di sent') *vi.* [*< L dis-*, apart + *sentire*, feel] 1 to disagree 2 to reject doctrines of an established church —*n.* a dissenting —**dis·sent'er** *n.*

dis·ser·ta·tion (dis'ər tā'shən) *n.* [*< L dis-*, apart + *serere*, join] a formal discourse or treatise, esp. one written to fulfill the requirements for a doctorate from a university

dis·serv·ice (dis sər'vis) *n.* harm

dis·sev·er (di sev'ər) *vt.* 1 to sever; separate 2 to divide into parts —*vi.* to separate; disunite

dis·si·dence (dis'ə dəns) *n.* [*< L dis-*, apart + *sidere*, sit] disagreement; dissent —**dis'si·dent** (-dənt) *adj., n.*

dis·sim·i·lar (dis sim'ə lər) *adj.* not similar; different —**dis'sim'i·lar'i·ty** (-lar'ə tē), *pl.* -ties, *n.*

dis·si·mil·i·tude (dis'si mil'ə tōd') *n.* difference

dis·sim·u·late (di sim'yō lāt') *vt., vi.* -lat'ed, -lat'ing [see **DIS-** & **SIMULATE**] to dissemble —**dis·sim'u·la'tion** *n.* —**dis·sim'u·la'tor** *n.*

dis·si·pate (dis'ə pāt') *vt.* -pat'ed, -pat'ing [*< L dis-*, apart + *supare*, to throw] 1 to scatter; disperse 2 to make disappear 3 to waste or squander —*vi.* 1 to vanish 2 to indulge in pleasure to the point of harming oneself —**dis'si·pa'tion** *n.*

dis·so·ci·ate (di sō'shē āt') *vt.* -at'ed, -at'ing [*< L dis-*, apart + *sociare*, join] to break the connection between; disunite —**dis·so'ci·a'tion** *n.*

dis·so·lute (dis'ə lōt') *adj.* [see **DIS-SOLVE**] dissipated and immoral; profligate —**dis'so·lute'ly** *adv.* —**dis'so·lute'ness** *n.*

dis·so·lu·tion (dis'ə lō'shən) *n.* a dissolving or being dissolved; specif., a) a breaking up or into parts b) a termination c) death

dis·solve (di zälv', -zōlv') *vt., vi.* -solved', -solv'ing [*< L dis-*, apart + *solvere*, loosen] 1 to make or become liquid; melt 2 to pass or make pass into solution 3 to break up 4 to end as by breaking up; terminate 5 to disappear or make disappear

dis·so·nance (dis'ə nəns) *n.* [*< L dis-*, apart + *sonus*, a sound] 1 an inharmonious combination of sounds; discord 2 any lack of harmony or agreement —**dis'so·nant** *adj.*

dis·suade (di swād') *vt.* -suad'ed, -suad'ing [*< L dis-*, away + *suadere*, to persuade] to turn (a person) aside (from a course, etc.) by persuasion or advice —**dis·sua'sion** (-swā'zhən) *n.*

dist *abbrev.* 1 distance 2 district

dis·taff (dis'taf') *n.* [*< OE dis-*, flax + *stæf*, staff] a staff on which flax, wool, etc. is wound for use in spinning —*adj.* female; specif., of the maternal side of a family

dis·tal (dis'təl) *adj.* [DIST(ANT) + -AL] *Anat.* farthest from the point of attachment or origin; terminal —**dis'tal·ly** *adv.*

dis·tance (dis'təns) *n.* [*< L dis-*, apart + *stare*, to stand] 1 a being separated in space or time; remoteness 2 a gap, space, or interval between two points in space or time 3 a remoteness in behavior; reserve 4 a faraway place —*vt.* -tanced, -tanc'ing to place at an emotional distance (from)

dis'tant (-tənt) *adj.* 1 far away in space or time 2 away [100 miles distant] 3 far apart in relationship 4 aloof; reserved 5 from or at a distance —**dis'tant·ly** *adv.*

dis·taste (dis tāst') *n.* dislike —**dis·taste'ful** *adj.*

dis·tem·per (dis tem'pər) *n.* [*< ML dis-*, *temperare*, to disorder] an infectious viral disease of young dogs, horses, etc.

dis·tend (di stend') *vt., vi.* [*< L dis-*, apart + *tendere*, to stretch] 1 to stretch out 2 to expand, as by pressure from within; make or become swollen —**dis·ten'tion** or **dis·ten'sion** *n.*

dis·till or **dis·til** (di stil') *vi., vt.* -tilled', -till'ing [*< L de-*, down + *stillare*, to drop] 1 to fall or let fall in drops 2 to undergo, subject to, or produce by distillation —**dis·till'er** *n.*

dis·til·late (dis'tə lāt', -lit) *n.* a liquid obtained by distilling

dis·til·la·tion (dis'tə lā'shən) *n.* 1 the process of heating a mixture and condensing the resulting vapor to produce a more nearly pure substance 2 any-

thing distilled; distillate

dis-till-er-y (di stil'ər ē) *n.*, *pl.* -ies a place where alcoholic liquors are distilled

dis-tinct (di stɪŋkt') *adj.* [see DISTINGUISH] 1 not alike 2 separate 3 clearly perceived or marked off 4 unmistakable; definite —**dis-tinct'ly** *adv.*

dis-tinc'tion (-stɪŋk'shən) *n.* 1 the act of making or keeping distinct 2 difference 3 a quality or feature that differentiates 4 fame; eminence 5 the quality that makes one seem superior 6 a mark of special recognition or honor

dis-tinc'tive *adj.* making distinct; characteristic —**dis-tinc'tive-ly** *adv.* —**dis-tinc'tive-ness** *n.*

dis-tin-guish (di stɪŋ'gwish) *vt.* [< L *dis-*, apart + *-stinguere*, to prick] 1 to perceive or show the difference in 2 to characterize 3 to perceive clearly 4 to classify 5 to make famous —*vi.* to make a distinction (*between* or *among*) —**dis-tin'guish-a-ble** *adj.*

dis-tin'guished *adj.* celebrated; famous

dis-tort (di stōrt') *vt.* [< L *dis-*, intens. + *torquere*, to twist] 1 to twist out of shape 2 to misrepresent (facts, etc.) 3 to modify so as to reproduce unfaithfully —**dis-tor'tion** *n.*

dis-tract (di strakt') *vt.* [< L *dis-*, apart + *trahere*, draw] 1 to draw (the mind, etc.) away in another direction; divert 2 to confuse; bewilder —**dis-tract'ed** *adj.* —**dis-tract'ing** *adj.*

dis-trac'tion *n.* 1 a distracting or being distracted 2 anything that distracts confusingly or amusingly; diversion 3 great mental distress

dis-trait (di strā') *adj.* [see DISTRACT] absent-minded; inattentive

dis-traught' (-strōt') *adj.* [var. of prec.] 1 mentally confused; distracted 2 driven mad; crazed

dis-tress (di stres') *vt.* [ult. < L *dis-*, apart + *stringere*, to stretch] to cause misery or suffering to —*n.* 1 pain, suffering, etc. 2 an affliction 3 a state of danger or trouble —**dis-tressed'** *adj.*

dis-trib-ute (di sɪb'yoot) *vt.* -ut-ed, -ut-ing [< L *dis-*, apart + *tribuere*, allot] 1 to give out in shares 2 to spread out 3 to classify 4 to put (things) in various distinct places —**dis'tri-bu'tion** *n.*

dis-trib'u-tor *n.* one that distributes; specif., *a*) a dealer who distributes goods to consumers *b*) a device for distributing electric current to the spark plugs of a gasoline engine

dis-strict (dis'trikt) *n.* [< L *dis-*, apart + *stringere*, to stretch] 1 a division of a state, city, etc. made for a specific purpose 2 any region

district attorney the prosecuting attorney for the state or the federal government in a specified district

District of Columbia federal district of the U.S., on the Potomac: 61 sq. mi.; pop. 607,000; coextensive with the city of Washington: abbrev. *DC*

dis-trust (dis trust') *n.* a lack of trust; doubt —*vt.* to have no trust in; doubt —

dis-trust'ful *adj.*

dis-turb (di stərb') *vt.* [< L *dis-*, intens. + *turbare*, to disorder] 1 to break up the quiet or settled order of 2 to make uneasy; upset 3 to interrupt —**dis-turb'er** *n.*

dis-turb'ance *n.* 1 a disturbing or being disturbed 2 anything that disturbs 3 commotion; disorder

dis-u-nite (dis'yōō nit') *vt.*, *vi.* -nit'ed, -nit'ing to divide or separate into parts, factions, etc. —**dis-u'ni-ty** *n.*

dis-use' (-yōōs') *n.* lack of use

ditch (dɪtʃ) *n.* [OE *dic*] a long, narrow channel dug into the earth, as for drainage —*vt.* 1 to make a ditch in 2 [Slang] to get rid of

dith-er (dɪθ'ər) *vi.* [ME *dideren*] 1 to be nervously excited or confused 2 to be indecisive —*n.* a nervously excited or confused state

dit-sy (dɪt'sē) *adj.* -si-er, -si-est [? < DIZZY] [Slang] silly, flighty, eccentric, etc.: also sp. **dit'zy**

dit-to (dɪt'ō) *n.*, *pl.* -tos [It < L *dicere*, to say] 1 the same (as above or before) 2 DITTO MARK

ditto mark a mark (") used in lists or tables to show that the item above is to be repeated

dit-ty (dɪt'ē) *n.*, *pl.* -ties [< L *dicere*, to say] a short, simple song

di-u-ret-ic (dī'yōō ret'ik) *adj.* [< Gr *dia-*, through + *ourein*, urinate] increasing the flow of urine —*n.* a diuretic drug or substance

di-ur-nāl (dī ər'nəl) *adj.* [< L *dies*, day] 1 daily 2 of the daytime —**di-ur'nal-ly** *adv.*

div *abbrev.* 1 dividend 2 division

di-va (dē'və) *n.*, *pl.* -vas or -ve (-ve) [It < L, goddess] a leading woman singer

di-va-lent (dī'vā'lənt, dī vā'-) *adj.* *Chem.* having two valences or a valence of two

di-van (di van', dī'van') *n.* [< Pers *dīwān*] a large, low couch or sofa

dive (dɪv) *vi.* dived or dove, dived, div'ing [OE *dyfan*] 1 to plunge head-first into water 2 to submerge 3 to plunge suddenly into something 4 to make a steep descent, as an airplane —*n.* 1 a diving 2 any sudden plunge 3 a sharp descent 4 [Inf.] a cheap, disreputable saloon, etc. —**div'er** *n.*

di-verge (dī vərj', dī-) *vi.* -verged', -verg'ing [< L *dis-*, apart + *vergere*, to turn] 1 to go or move in different directions; branch off 2 to differ, as in opinion —**di-ver'gence** *n.* —**di-ver'gent** *adj.*

di-vers (dī'vərz) *adj.* [see fol.] various

di-verse (də vɜrs', dī-) *adj.* [< L *dis-*, apart + *vertere*, to turn] 1 different 2 varied —**di-verse'ly** *adv.*

di-ver-si-fy (də vɜr'sə fī') *vt.* -fied', -fy'ing 1 to make diverse; vary 2 to divide up (investments, etc.) among different companies, etc. —*vi.* to expand product lines, etc. —**di-ver'si-fi-ca'tion** *n.*

di-ver-sion (də vɜr'zhən, dī-) *n.* 1 a diverting or turning aside 2 distraction of attention 3 a pastime

di-ver'sion-ar-y *adj.* serving to divert or distract [*diversionary tactics*]

di-ver-si-ty (də var'sə tē, dī-) *n.*, *pl.* -ties
1 difference 2 variety

di-vert (də vart', dī-) *vt.* [[see DIVERSE]]
1 to turn (a person or thing) aside from a course, etc. 2 to distract 3 to amuse

di-ver-tic-u-li-tis (dī'vər tik'yōō lit'is) *n.*
[[< L *de-*, from + *vertere*, to turn + *-ITIS*]]
inflammation of a sac (*di-ver-tic'u-lum*)
opening out from a tubular organ or main cavity

di-vest (də vest', dī-) *vt.* [[< L *dis-*, from + *vestire*, to dress]] 1 to strip of clothing, etc. 2 to deprive of rank, rights, etc. 3 to rid of something unwanted

di-vid (də vid') *vt.* -vid'ed, -vid'ing [[< L *dividere*]] 1 to separate into parts; sever 2 to classify 3 to make or keep separate 4 to apportion 5 to cause to disagree 6 *Math.* to separate into equal parts by a divisor —*vi.* 1 to be or become separate 2 to disagree 3 to share 4 *Math.* to do division —*n.* a boundary; specif., a ridge that divides two drainage areas —*di-vid'er n.*

div-i-dend (div'ə dend') *n.* 1 the number or quantity to be divided 2 *a)* a sum to be divided among stockholders, etc. *b)* a single share of this 3 a bonus

div-i-na-tion (div'ə nā'shən) *n.* [[see fol.]]
1 the practice of trying to foretell the future 2 a prophecy

di-vine (də vīn') *adj.* [[< L *divus*, god]] 1 of, like, or from God or a god; holy 2 devoted to God; religious 3 [Inf.] very pleasing, etc. —*n.* a member of the clergy —*vt.* -vined', -vin'ing 1 to prophesy 2 to guess 3 to find out by intuition —*di-vine'ly adv.*

divining rod a forked stick believed to dip downward when held over an underground supply of water, etc.

di-vin-i-ty (də vīn'ə tē) *n.* 1 a being divine 2 *pl.* -ties a god 3 theology — the Divinity God

di-vis-i-ble (də viz'ə bəl) *adj.* that can be divided, esp. without leaving a remainder —*di-vis'i-bil'i-ty n.*

di-vi-sion (də vizh'ən) *n.* 1 a dividing or being divided 2 an apportioning 3 a difference of opinion 4 anything that divides 5 a segment, section, department, class, etc. 6 the process of finding how many times a number (the *divisor*) is contained in another (the *dividend*) 7 a major military unit

di-vi-sive (də vī'siv) *adj.* causing disagreement or dissension —*di-vi'sive-ly adv.* —*di-vi'sive-ness n.*

di-vi-sor (də vī'zər) *n.* the number by which the dividend is divided

di-vorce (də vōrs') *n.* [[< L *dis-*, apart + *vertere*, to turn]] 1 legal dissolution of a marriage 2 any complete separation —*vt.* -vorced', -vorc'ing 1 to dissolve legally a marriage between 2 to dissolve the marriage with (one's spouse) 3 to separate —*di-vorce'ment n.*

di-vor-cée or **di-vor-cee** (di vōr'sā, -sē') *fem.n.* [[Fr]] a divorced woman —*di-vor'cé* (-sā', -sē') *masc.n.*

div-ot (div'ət) *n.* [[Scot]] *Golf* a lump of turf dislodged in making a stroke

di-vulge (də vulj') *vt.* -vulged', -vulg'ing [[< L *dis-*, apart + *vulgare*, make public]] to make known; reveal

div-vy (div'ē) *vt.*, *vi.* -vied, -vy-ing [Slang] to share; divide (*up*)

Dix-ie (dik'sē) [[< *Dixie*, the minstrel song]] the Southern states of the U.S.

Dix'ie-land' *adj.* in, of, or like a style of jazz with a ragtime tempo

DIY (dē'twī') *n.* DO-IT-YOURSELF

diz-zy (diz'ē) *adj.* -zi-er, -zi-est [[OE *dysig*, foolish]] 1 feeling giddy or unsteady 2 causing giddiness 3 confused 4 [Inf.] silly; harebrained — *diz'zi-ly adv.* —*diz'zi-ness n.*

DJ (dē'jā') *abbrev. n.* DISC JOCKEY

djel-la-ba or **djel-la-bah** (jə lā'bə) *n.* [[< Ar]] a long, loose outer garment worn in Arabic countries

Dji-bou-ti (ji bōōt'ē) country in E Africa: 8,958 sq. mi.; pop. 695,000

DMZ *abbrev.* demilitarized zone

DNA (dē'en'ā') *n.* [[< *d*(eoxyribo)*n*(ucleic)*a*(cid)]] the basic chromosome material, containing and transmitting the hereditary pattern

Dne-pr (nē'pər) river in W Russia, Belarus, & Ukraine, flowing into the Black Sea

do¹ (dō) *vt.* did, done, do'ing [[OE *don*]]
1 to perform (an action, etc.) 2 to complete; finish 3 to cause [it *does* no harm] 4 to exert [*do* your best] 5 to deal with as is required [*do* the ironing] 6 to have as one's occupation; work at 7 to move at a speed of [*to do* 65 mph] 8 [Inf.] to serve (a jail term) 9 [Slang] to ingest [*to do* drugs] —*vi.* 1 to behave or perform [*do* as you please] 2 to be active [*up and doing*] 3 to get along; fare [*he is doing* well after surgery] 4 to be adequate [*casual dress will do*] 5 to take place [*anything doing* tonight?] —*v.aux.* 1 used to give emphasis [*do* stay a while] 2 used to ask a question [*did* you go?] 3 used as a substitute verb [*act as I do* (act)] 4 used in a negative construction [*do* not go] —*do in* 1 [Slang] to kill 2 [Inf.] to tire out —*do over* [Inf.] to redecorate —*do up* to wrap up —*do with* to make use of —*do without* to get along without —*have to do with* to be related to

do² (dō) *n.* [[It]] *Music* the first or last tone of the diatonic scale

DOA *abbrev.* dead on arrival

do-a-ble (dō'ə bəl) *adj.* that can be done

Do-ber-man (pin-scher) (dō'bər mən pin'chər) [[< Ger after L. *Dobermann*, 19th-c. breeder + *pinscher*, terrier]] a large dog with a short, dark coat

doc (däk) *n.* [Slang] doctor

do-cent (dō'sənt) *n.* [[< L *docere*, to teach]] a lecturer or tour guide, as at a museum

doc-ile (dās'al) *adj.* [[see prec.]] easy to discipline; submissive —*do-cil-i-ty* (dō sil'ə tē, dā-) *n.*

dock¹ (däk) *n.* [[< It *doccia*, canal]] 1 an excavated basin for receiving ships 2 a wharf; pier 3 the water between two piers 4 a platform for loading and unloading trucks, etc. —*vt.*, *vi.* to bring or come to or into a dock: said of a ship

dock² (däk) *n.* [[< Fl *dok*, a cage]] the

place where the accused stands or sits in court

dock³ (däk) *n.* [OE *docce*] a tall, coarse weed of the buckwheat family

dock⁴ (däk) *vt.* [ME *dok*, tail] 1 to cut off the end of (a tail, etc.); bob 2 to deduct from (wages, etc.)

dock-et (däk'it) *n.* [< ?] 1 a list of cases to be tried by a law court 2 an agenda —*vt.* to enter in a docket

dock'yard *n.* SHIPYARD

doc-tor (däk'tər) *n.* [< L, teacher] 1 one who holds a doctorate 2 a physician or surgeon 3 one licensed to practice any of the healing arts —*vt.* [Inf.] 1 to try to heal 2 to tamper with

doc'tor-ate (-it) *n.* the highest degree awarded by universities —**doc'tor-al** *adj.*

Doctor of Philosophy the highest doctorate awarded for original research

doc-tri-naire (däk'tri ner') *adj.* [Fr] adhering to a doctrine dogmatically —**doc'tri-nair'ism** *n.*

doc-trine (däk'trin) *n.* [see DOCTOR] something taught, esp. as the principles of a religion, political party, etc.; tenet or tenets; dogma —**doc'tri-nal** (-tri nəl) *adj.*

doc-u-dra-ma (däk'yōō drä'mə) *n.* a TV dramatization of real events

doc-u-ment (däk'yōō mənt, -yə-; for *v.*, -ment') *n.* [< L *documentum*, proof] anything printed, written, etc. that contains information or is relied upon to record or prove something —*vt.* to provide with or support by documents

doc'u-men'ta-ry (-ment'ə rē) *adj.* 1 of or supported by documents 2 depicting news events, social conditions, etc. in nonfictional but dramatic form —*n., pl.* -ries a documentary film, etc.

doc'u-men-ta'tion (-mən tā'shən, -men-) *n.* 1 the supplying of documents 2 the documents thus supplied 3 instructions for using computer hardware or software

dod-der (däd'ər) *vi.* [ME *daderen*] 1 to shake or tremble, as from old age 2 to totter —**dod'der-ing** *adj.*

dodge (dāj) *vi., vt.* dodged, dodg'ing [< ?] 1 to move quickly aside, or avoid by so moving 2 to use tricks or evasions, or evade by so doing —*n.* 1 a dodging 2 a trick used in evading or cheating —**dodg'er** *n.*

do-do (dō'dō) *n., pl.* -dos or -does [Port *douido*, lit., stupid] 1 a large, flightless bird, now extinct 2 [Slang] a stupid person

doe (dō) *n.* [OE *da*] the female deer, antelope, rabbit, etc.

do-er (dō'ər) *n.* 1 one who does something 2 one who gets things done

does (duz) *vt., vi.* 3d pers. sing., pres. indic., of DO¹

doe'skin *n.* 1 leather from the skin of a female deer 2 a soft woolen cloth

doff (däf, dōf) *vt.* [see DO¹ & OFF] to take off (one's hat, clothes, etc.)

dog (dōg) *n.* [OE *docga*] 1 any of various canines, esp. one of a domesticated

breed kept as a pet, for hunting, etc. 2 a mean, contemptible fellow 3 [pl.] [Slang] feet 4 [Slang] an unattractive person or unsatisfactory thing 5 *Mech.* a device for holding or grappling —*vt.* **dogged, dog'ing** to follow or hunt doggedly —**go to the dogs** [Inf.] to deteriorate

dog days the hot, uncomfortable days in July and August

dog'-ear *n.* a turned-down corner of a page —**dog'-eared** *adj.*

dog'fight *n.* a violent fight; specif., combat between fighter planes

dog'fish *n., pl.* -fish' or (for different species) -fish'es any of various small sharks

dog-ged (dōg'id) *adj.* persistent; stubborn —**dog-ged-ly** *adv.*

dog-ger-el (dōg'ər əl) *n.* [ME *dogerel*] trivial poetry with a monotonous rhythm

dog-gie bag (dōg'ē) a bag supplied by a restaurant for carrying leftovers, as for one's dog

dog'gone *interj.* damn! darn! —*adj.* [Inf.] damned

dog'house *n.* a structure for sheltering a dog —**in the doghouse** [Slang] in disfavor

do-gie (dō'gē) *n.* [< ?] [West] a stray calf

dog-ma (dōg'mə) *n.* [< Gr, opinion] a doctrine; tenet, esp. a theological doctrine strictly adhered to

dog-mat'ic (-mat'ik) *adj.* 1 of or like dogma 2 asserted without proof 3 stating opinion positively or arrogantly —**dog-mat'i-cal-ly** *adv.*

dog'ma-tism (-mə tiz'əm) *n.* dogmatic assertion of opinion —**dog'ma-tist** *n.*

do'-good'er *n.* [Inf.] an idealistic, but impractical person who seeks to correct social ills

dog'-tired *adj.* very tired; exhausted

dog'trot *n.* a slow, easy trot

dog'wood *n.* a small, flowering tree of the E U.S.

doi-ly (dōi'lē) *n., pl.* -lies [after a 17th-c. London draper] a small mat, as of lace, put under a vase, etc. as a decoration or to protect a surface

do-ings (dō'inz) *pl.n.* actions or events

do'-it-your-self *n.* the practice of making or repairing things oneself, instead of hiring another —**do'-it-your-self'er** *n.*

Dol-by (dōl'bē) [after R. Dolby, U.S. recording engineer] trademark for an electronic system used to reduce unwanted noise

dol-drums (dōl'drəmz, dāl'-) *pl.n.* [< ? DULL] 1 a) low spirits b) sluggishness 2 equatorial ocean regions having little wind

dole (dōl) *n.* [OE *dal*, a share] 1 money or food given in charity 2 money paid by a government to the unemployed —*vt.* **doled, dol'ing** to give (out) sparingly or as a dole

dole'ful (-fəl) *adj.* [< L *dolere*, suffer] sad; mournful —**dole'ful-ly** *adv.*

doll (dāl) *n.* [< nickname for Dorothy] 1 a child's toy made to resemble a human being 2 [Slang] any attractive or lov-

able person —*vt., vi.* [Inf.] to dress stylishly or showily: with *up*

dol·lar (däl'är) *n.* [*< Ger thaler, a coin*] 1 the monetary unit of the U.S., equal to 100 cents 2 the monetary unit of various other countries, as of Canada 3 a piece of money worth one dollar

dol·lop (däl'öp) *n.* [*< ?*] 1 a soft mass 2 a quantity, often a small one

dol·ly (däl'ë) *n., pl. -lies* 1 a doll: child's word 2 a low, flat, wheeled frame for moving heavy objects

dol·men (döl'mən, däl'-) *n.* [Fr] a prehistoric monument consisting of a large, flat stone laid across upright stones

do·lo·mite (dō'lə mīt', däl'ə-) *n.* [after D. Dolomieu, 18th-c. Fr geologist] 1 a mineral used in making cement, etc. 2 a sedimentary rock used as a building stone

do·lor·ous (dō'lər əs, däl'ər-) *adj.* [*< L dolere, suffer*] sorrowful; sad —**do'lor·ous·ly** *adv.*

dol·phin (däl'fin, döl'-) *n.* [*< Gr delphis*] a highly intelligent toothed whale with a beaklike snout

dolt (dölt) *n.* [prob. *< ME dolte*] a stupid person —**dolt'ish** *adj.*

-dom (dəm) [OE *dom*, state] *suffix* 1 rank or domain of [kingdom] 2 fact or state of being [martyrdom] 3 all who are [officialdom]

do·main (dō măn') *n.* [*< L dominus, a lord*] 1 territory under one government or ruler 2 field of activity or influence

dome (dōm) *n.* [*< Gr dōma, housetop*] 1 a rounded roof or ceiling 2 any dome-shaped structure or object; specif., a sports stadium covered with a dome

do·mes·tic (dō mes'tik, də-) *adj.* [*< L domus, house*] 1 of the home or family 2 of or made in one's country 3 tame: said of animals 4 enjoying family life —*n.* a maid, cook, etc. in the home —**do·mes'ti·cal·ly** *adv.*

do·mes'ti·cate' (-ti kăt') *vt. -cat'ed, -cat'ing* 1 to accustom to home life 2 to tame or cultivate for human use —**do·mes'ti·ca'tion** *n.*

do·mes·tic·i·ty (dō mes tis'ə tē) *n.* home life or devotion to it

dom·i·cile (däm'ə sīl', -sil; also dō'mə-) *n.* [*< L domus, home*] a home; residence —*vt. -ciled', -cil'ing* to establish in a domicile

dom·i·nant (däm'ə nənt) *adj.* dominating; ruling; prevailing —**dom'i·nance** *n.* —**dom'i·nant·ly** *adv.*

dom'i·nate' (-năt') *vt., vi. -nat'ed, -nat'ing* [*< L dominus, a master*] 1 to rule or control by superior power 2 to rise above (the surroundings) —**dom'i·na'tion** *n.*

dom·i·neer (däm'ə nir') *vi., vt.* [*< Du: see prec.*] to rule (over) in a harsh or arrogant way; tyrannize

dom'i·neer'ing *adj.* overbearing

Do·min·i·can Republic (dō min'i kən, də-) country in the E part of Hispaniola, in the West Indies: 18,700 sq. mi.; pop. 5,648,000 —**Do·min'i·can** *adj., n.*

do·min·ion (də min'yən) *n.* [see DOMINATE] 1 rule or power to rule 2 a gov-

erned territory or country 3 [D-] [Historical] a self-governing nation of the Commonwealth

dom·i·no (däm'ə nō') *n., pl. -noes' or -nos'* [Fr & It] 1 a hooded cloak and a mask, worn at masquerades 2 a small mask that covers the area around the eyes 3 *a)* a small, oblong tile marked with dots *b)* [pl., with sing. v.] a game played with such tiles

don¹ (dän) *n.* [Sp *< L dominus, master*] 1 [D-] Sir; Mr.: a Spanish title of respect 2 a Spanish gentleman 3 [Chiefly Brit.] a teacher at a British university 4 a Mafia leader

don² (dän) *vt. donned, don'ning* [contr. of *do on*] to put on (clothes)

Don (dän) river in SC European Russia, flowing into the Black Sea

Do·ña (dō'nyä) *n.* [Sp] Lady; Madam: a Spanish title of respect

do·nate (dō'năt') *vt., vi. -nat'ed, -nat'ing* [*< L donum, gift*] to give or contribute —**do·na'tion** *n.* —**do'nat'or** (-ər) *n.*

done (dun) *vt., vi. pp. of DO¹ —adj.* 1 completed 2 cooked —**done** (for) [Inf.] dead, ruined, etc.

Don Juan (dän'wän') *Sp. Legend* a dissolute nobleman and seducer of women

don·key (dän'kē, dōn'-, dun'-) *n., pl. -keys* [*< ?*] 1 a domesticated ass 2 a stupid or foolish person

don·ny·brook (dän'ē brook') *n.* [after a fair formerly held near Dublin] [Inf.] a rowdy fight or free-for-all

do·nor (dō'nər, -nôr') *n.* one who donates

Don Qui·xo·te (dän'kē hōt'ē, dän'kwik'sət) 1 a satirical novel by Cervantes 2 its chivalrous but unrealistic hero

don't (dōnt) *contr.* do not

do·nut (dō'nut') *n. inf. sp. of DOUGHNUT*

doo·dle (dōd'l) *vi. -dled, -dling* [Ger *dudeln, to trifle*] to scribble aimlessly —*n.* a mark made in doodling —**doo'dler** *n.*

doo·doo (dōd'dō) *n.* 1 [Inf.] excrement 2 [Slang] trouble

doom (dōm) *n.* [OE *dom*] 1 a judgment; sentence 2 fate 3 ruin or death —*vt.* 1 to pass judgment on; condemn 2 to destine to a tragic fate

dooms'day' *n.* Judgment Day

doom'y *adj.* filled with a sense of doom or disaster

door (dôr) *n.* [OE *duru*] 1 a movable structure for opening or closing an entrance 2 a doorway 3 a means of access —**out of doors** outdoors

door'bell' *n.* a bell, etc. at the entrance of a building or room, sounded to alert the occupants of a visitor

door'man' (-man', -mən) *n., pl. -men' (-men', -mən)* one whose work is opening the door of a building, hailing taxicabs, etc.

door'mat' *n.* a mat to wipe the shoes on before entering a house, etc.

door'step' *n.* a step that leads from an outer door to a path, lawn, etc.

door'-to-door' *adj., adv.* from one home to the next, calling on each in turn

door'way *n.* 1 an opening in a wall that can be closed by a door 2 any means of access

door'yard *n.* a yard onto which a door of a house opens

do·pa (dō'pə) *n.* [*<* chemical name] an amino acid that is converted by an enzyme in the blood into certain biological chemicals: one isomer (*L-dopa*) is used in treating Parkinson's disease

dope (dōp) *n.* [*Du doop*, sauce] 1 any thick liquid used as a lubricant, varnish, filler, etc. 2 [*Inf.*] a drug or narcotic 3 [*Inf.*] a stupid person 4 [*Slang*] information —*vt.* **doped**, **dop'ing** to drug

dop'er *n.* [*Slang*] a drug addict

dop·ey or **dop·y** (dō'pē) *adj.* -i·er, -i·est [*Inf.*] 1 lethargic 2 stupid

Dor·ic (dôr'ik) *adj.* designating or of a classical style of architecture marked by fluted columns with plain capitals

dorm (dôrm) *n.* [*Inf.*] DORMITORY

dor·mant (dôr'mənt) *adj.* [*<* L *dormire*, to sleep] 1 inactive 2 *Biol.* in a resting or torpid state —**dor'man·cy** *n.*



DORMER

dor·mer (dôr'mər) *n.* [*see prec.*] 1 a window set upright in a structure projecting from a sloping roof: also **dormer window** 2 such a structure

dor·mi·to·ry (dôr'mə tōr'ē) *n., pl.* -ries [*see DORMANT*] 1 a room with beds for a number of people 2 a building with rooms for many people to sleep and live in, as at a college

dor·mouse (dôr'mous') *n., pl.* -mice' (-mīs') [*ME dormous*] a small, furry-tailed Old World rodent

dor·sal (dôr'səl) *adj.* [*<* L *dorsum*, the back] of, on, or near the back

do·ry (dôr'ē) *n., pl.* -ries [*<* ? AmInd (Central America) *dori*, dugout] a flat-bottomed fishing boat with high sides

dose (dōs) *n.* [*<* Gr *dosis*, a giving] an amount of a medicine to be taken at one time —*vt.* **dosed**, **dos'ing** to give doses to —**dos'age** *n.*

do·sim·e·ter (dō sim'ət ər) *n.* a device for measuring exposure to ionizing radiation

dos·si·er (dä'sē ā') *n.* [*Fr*] a collection of documents about some person or matter

dost (dust) *vt., vi.* *archaic* 2d pers. sing., pres. indic., of DO¹: used with *thou*

Dos·to·ev·ski or **Dos·to·yev·sky** (dōs'tō yef'skē), **Feo·dor** (fyō'dôr) 1821-81; Russ. novelist

dot (dät) *n.* [*OE dott*, head of boil] 1 a tiny speck or mark 2 a small, round spot —*vt.* **dot'ted**, **dot'ting** to mark with or as with a dot or dots —**on the dot** [*Inf.*] at the exact time

dot·age (dōt'ij) *n.* [*ME < doten*, DOTE] childish state due to old age

dot'ard (-ərd) *n.* one in his or her dotage

dot.com (dät'käm') *adj.* [*Inf.*] designating or of a company doing business mostly on the Web: also **dot-com**

dote (dōt) *vi.* **dot'ed**, **dot'ing** [*ME doten*] to be excessively fond: with *on* or *upon*

doth (duth) *vt., vi.* *archaic* 3d pers. sing., pres. indic., of DO¹

dot·ing (dōt'in) *adj.* foolishly or excessively fond —**dot'ing·ly** *adv.*

dot'-ma'trix *adj.* of or by printing in which characters are formed of closely spaced dots

Dou·ay Bible (dōō ā') an English version of the Bible for Roman Catholics: after Douai, France, where the Old Testament was published

dou·ble (dub'əl) *adj.* [*<* L *duplus*] 1 twofold 2 having two layers 3 paired or repeated [*a double consonant*] 4 being of two kinds [*a double standard*] 5 twice as much, as many, etc. 6 made for two —*adv.* 1 twofold or twice 2 two together —*n.* 1 anything twice as much, as many, etc., as normal 2 a duplicate; counterpart 3 a fold 4 [*pl.*] a game of tennis, etc. with two players on each side 5 *Baseball* a hit on which the batter reaches second base 6 *Bridge* the doubling of an opponent's bid —*vt.* -bled, -bling 1 to make twice as much or as many 2 to fold 3 to repeat or duplicate 4 *Bridge* to increase the point value or penalty of (an opponent's bid) —*vi.* 1 to become double 2 to turn sharply backward 3 to serve as a double 4 to serve an additional purpose 5 *Baseball* to hit a double —**double back** to turn back in the direction from which one came —**double up** 1 to clench (one's fist) 2 to bend over, as in pain 3 to share a room, etc. with someone —**on the double** [*Inf.*] quickly

double agent a spy employed by two rival espionage organizations

dou'ble-bar'reled *adj.* 1 having two barrels, as a kind of shotgun 2 having a double purpose or meaning

double bass (bās) the largest, deepest-toned instrument of the violin family

dou'ble-blind' *adj.* designating or of a test of the effects of a drug, treatment, etc. in which neither the subjects nor the researchers know who is receiving the drug, treatment, etc.

double boiler a cooking utensil in which one pan, for food, fits over another, for boiling water

dou'ble-breast'ed *adj.* overlapping across the breast, as a coat

dou'ble-cross' *vt.* [*Inf.*] to betray —**dou'ble-cross'er** *n.*

double date [*Inf.*] a social engagement

shared by two couples —**dou'ble-date'**, -dat'ed, -dat'ing, *vi.*, *vt.*

dou'ble-deal'ing *n.* duplicity

dou'ble-deck'er *n.* 1 any structure or vehicle with an upper deck 2 [Inf.] a sandwich with two layers of filling and three slices of bread

dou'ble-dig'it *adj.* amounting to ten percent or more [*double-digit* inflation]

double dipping an unethical receiving of pay from two or more sources

dou'ble-en·ten·dre (dub'əl än tăn'drə, dōō'blōn tōn'drə) *n.* [*< Fr*] a term with two meanings, esp. when one is risqué

dou'ble-head'er *n.* two games played in succession on the same day

dou'ble-joint'ed *adj.* having joints that permit limbs, fingers, etc. to bend at other than the usual angles

dou'ble-knit' *adj.* knit with a double stitch that makes the fabric extra thick

double play *Baseball* a play in which two players are put out

dou'ble-reed' *adj.* designating or of a woodwind instrument, as the oboe, having two reeds separated by a narrow opening

double standard a system, code, etc. applied unequally; specif., a moral code stricter for women than for men

dou·blet (dub'lit) *n.* [*< OFr double*, orig., something folded] 1 a man's closefitting jacket of the 14th-16th c. 2 a pair, or one of a pair

double take a delayed reaction, as a second glance, following unthinking acceptance

double talk 1 ambiguous and deceptive talk 2 meaningless syllables made to sound like talk

dou·bloon (də blōōn') *n.* [*< Fr < Sp < L duplus*, double] an obsolete Spanish gold coin

dou·bly (dub'lē) *adv.* 1 twice 2 two at a time

doubt (dout) *vi.* [*< L dubius*, uncertain] to be uncertain or undecided —*vt.* 1 to be uncertain about 2 to tend to disbelieve —*n.* 1 a) a wavering of opinion or belief b) lack of trust 2 a condition of uncertainty —**beyond** (or **without**) **doubt** certainly —**no doubt** 1 certainly 2 probably —**doubt'er** *n.* —**doubt'ing·ly** *adv.*

doubt'ful *adj.* 1 uncertain 2 causing doubt or suspicion 3 feeling doubt —**doubt'ful·ly** *adv.*

doubt'less *adv.* 1 without doubt; certainly 2 probably —**doubt'less·ly** *adv.*

douche (dōōsh) *n.* [*Fr < It doccia*] 1 a jet of liquid applied externally or internally to the body 2 a device for douching —*vt.*, *vi.* douched, douch'ing to apply a douche (to)

dough (dō) *n.* [*OE dag*] 1 a mixture of flour, liquid, etc. worked into a soft mass for baking 2 [Slang] money

dough'nut' *n.* a small, usually ring-shaped cake, fried in deep fat

dough·ty (dout'ē) *adj.* -ti·er, -ti·est [*OE dohtig*] [Now Rare] valiant; brave

dough·y (dō'ē) *adj.* -i·er, -i·est of or like dough; soft, pasty, etc.

Doug·las fir (dug'lās) [*after D. Doug-*

las, 19th-c. Scot botanist in U.S.] a giant North American evergreen tree valued for its wood

dour (door, dour) *adj.* [*< L durus*, hard]

1 [Scot.] stern; severe 2 sullen; gloomy

douse (dous) *vt.* doused, dous'ing [*< ?*]

1 to thrust suddenly into liquid 2 to drench 3 [Inf.] to put out (a light or fire) quickly

dove¹ (dov) *n.* [*ME douve*] 1 any of the smaller species of pigeon: often used as a symbol of peace 2 an advocate of measures which avoid or end wars

dove² (dōv) *vi.* alt. pt. of DIVE

dove'cote' *n.* a cote with compartments for nesting pigeons

Do·ver (dō'vər) capital of Delaware: pop. 28,000

dove·tail (dov'

tāl') *n.* a projecting part

that fits into a corresponding cut-out space to form a joint

—*vt.* to join, piece together, or fasten, as with dovetails

—*vi.* to fit together logically or closely

dow·a·ger

(dow'ə jər) *n.*

[*< L dotare*, to endow] 1 a

widow with a title or property derived from her dead husband 2 an elderly, wealthy woman

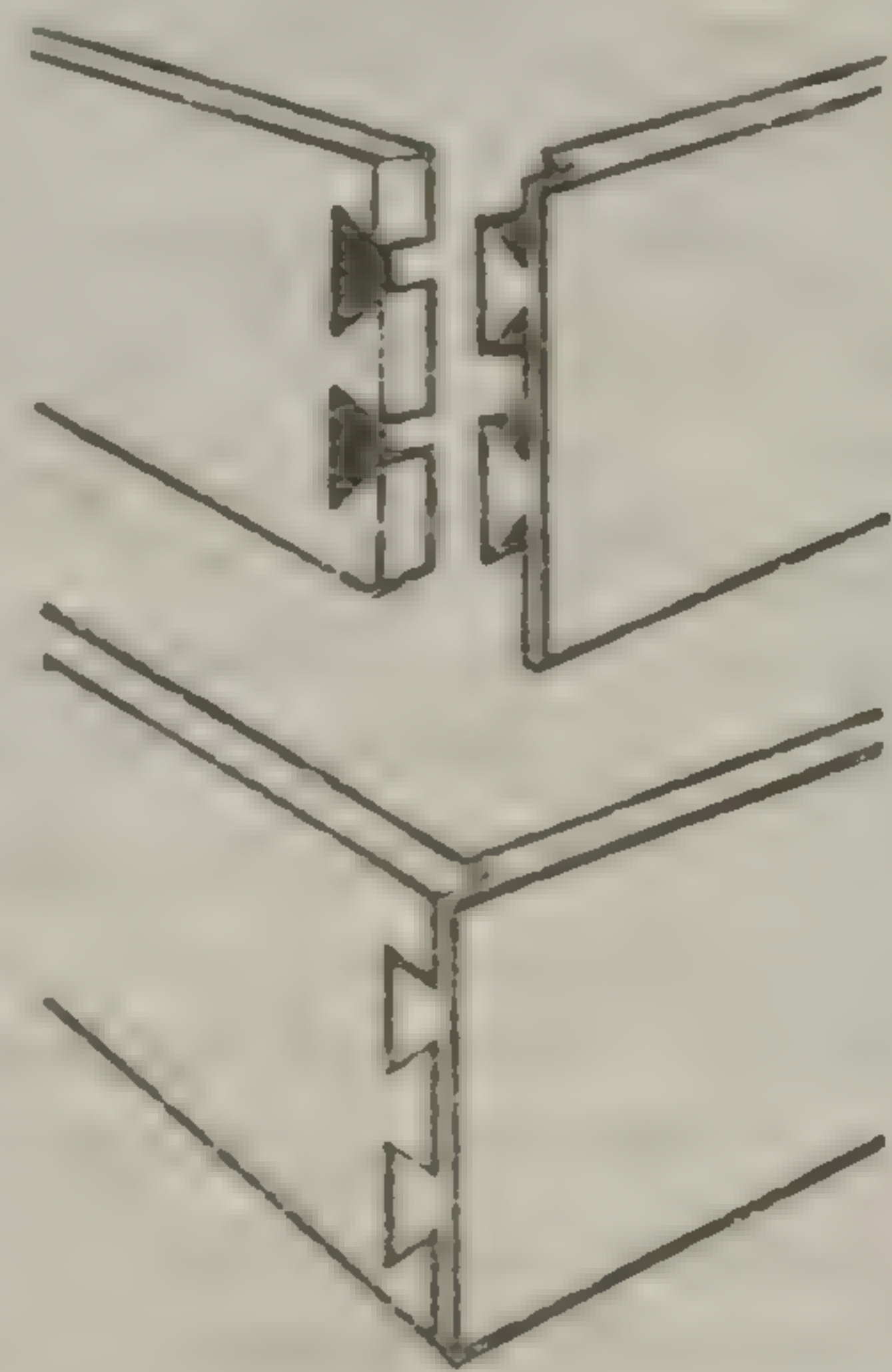
dow·dy (dow'dē) *adj.* -di·er, -di·est [*< ME doude*, plain woman] not neat or smart in dress —**dow'di·ness** *n.*

dow·el (dow'əl) *n.* [*ME doule*] a peg of wood, etc., usually fitted into corresponding holes in two pieces to fasten them together —*vt.* -eled or -elled, -el·ing or -el·ing to fasten with dowels

dow·er (dow'ər) *n.* [*< L dare*, give] that part of a man's property which his widow inherits for life

down¹ (down) *adv.* [*OE adune*, from the hill] 1 to, in, or on a lower place or level 2 in or to a low or lower condition, amount, etc. 3 southward [*down to Mexico*] 4 from an earlier to a later period 5 out of one's hands [*put it down*] 6 in a serious manner [*get down to work*] 7 completely [*loaded down*] 8 when purchased [*\$5 down and \$5 a week*] 9 in writing [*take down notes*] —*adj.* 1 descending 2 in a lower place 3 gone, brought, etc. down 4 dejected; discouraged 5 ill 6 finished [*four down, six to go*] 7 inoperative [*the computer is down*] —*prep.* down toward, along, through, into, or upon —*vt.* 1 to put or throw down 2 to swallow quickly —*n.* 1 a misfortune [*ups and downs*] 2 *Football* one of a series of plays in which a team tries to advance the ball —**down and out** penniless, ill, etc. —**down on** [Inf.] angry or annoyed with —**down with!** do away with!

down² (down) *n.* [*< ON dunn*] 1 soft.



DOVETAIL

fine feathers 2 soft, fine hair

down³ (doun) *n.* [OE *dun*, hill] an expanse of open, high, grassy land: *usually used in pl.*

down'-and-dirt'y *adj.* [Slang] 1 vulgar; coarse 2 unscrupulous 3 fiercely competitive

down'beat' *n.* *Music* the first beat of each measure

down'cast' *adj.* 1 directed downward 2 unhappy; dejected

Down East [*also d- e-*] [Inf.] in or into New England, esp. Maine

down'er *n.* [Slang] any depressant or sedative

down'fall' *n.* 1 a sudden fall, as from power 2 the cause of this

down'grade' *n.* a downward slope —*vt.* -grad'ed, -grad'ing 1 to demote 2 to belittle

down'heart'ed *adj.* discouraged

down'hill' *adv.* toward the bottom of a hill —*adj.* 1 going downward 2 without difficulty

Down-ing Street (doun'in) street in London, location of some of the principal government offices of the United Kingdom

down'load' *vt., vi.* to transfer (information) as from a network or main computer to another computer

down payment a partial payment at the time of purchase

down'play' *vt.* to play down; minimize

down'pour' *n.* a heavy rain

down'right' *adv.* utterly —*adj.* 1 absolute; utter 2 plain; frank

down'scale' *adj.* of or for people who are unstylish, not affluent, etc. —*vt., vi.* -scaled', -scal'ing to make smaller, less, cheaper, etc.

down'size' *vt., vi.* -sized', -siz'ing to make or become smaller, as by eliminating employees

down'stage' *adj., adv.* of or toward the front of the stage

down'stairs' *adv.* 1 down the stairs 2 on or to a lower floor —*adj.* on a lower floor —*n.* a lower floor

down'state' *adj., adv.* in, to, or from the southerly part of a U.S. state

down'stream' *adv., adj.* in the direction of the current of a stream

down'swing' *n.* 1 a downward swing, as of a golf club 2 a downward trend: also **down'turn'**

Down (or Down's) syndrome [after J. Down, 19th-c. Brit physician] a congenital condition characterized by mental deficiency, a broad face, etc.

down'time' *n.* the time a machine, factory, etc. is not working or functioning

down'-to-earth' *adj.* 1 realistic or practical 2 without affectation

down'town' *adj., adv.* in or toward the main business section of a city —*n.* the downtown section of a city

down'trod'den *adj.* oppressed

down'ward (-wərd) *adv., adj.* toward a lower place, position, state, etc.: also **down'wards** *adv.*

down'y *adj.* -i-er, -i-est 1 covered with soft, fine feathers or hair 2 soft and fluffy, like down

dow-ry (dou're) *n., pl. -ries* [see DOWER] property a woman brings to her husband at marriage

dowse (douz) *vi.* dowsed, dows'ing [< ?] to use a divining rod —**dows'er** *n.*

dox·ol·o·gy (däks əl'ə jē) *n., pl. -gies* [< Gr *doxa*, praise + *-logia*, -LOGY] a hymn of praise to God

doz *abbrev.* dozen(s)

doze (dōz) *vi.* dozed, doz'ing [prob. < Scand] to sleep lightly; nap —*n.* a light sleep —**doz'er** *n.*

doz·en (duz'an) *n., pl. -ens or -en* [< L *duo*, two + *decem*, ten] a set of twelve —**doz'enth** *adj.*

dpt *abbrev.* 1 department 2 deponent

Dr or Dr. *abbrev.* 1 Doctor 2 Drive

drab (drab) *n.* [< VL *drappus*, cloth] a dull yellowish brown —*adj.* **drab'ber**, **drab'best** 1 dull yellowish-brown 2 dull; dreary —**drab'ness** *n.*

drach·ma (drak'mə) *n.* [< Gr *drachmē*] 1 an ancient Greek coin 2 the former monetary unit of modern Greece, superseded in 2002 by the EURO

Drac-u-la (drak'yə lə) *n.* the title character in a novel (1897): a Romanian vampire and count

draft (draft) *n.* [OE *dragan*, to draw] 1 a drawing or pulling, as of a vehicle or load 2 *a*) a drawing in of a fish net *b*) the amount of fish caught in one draw 3 *a*) a drinking or the amount taken at one drink *b*) [Inf.] a portion of beer, etc. drawn from a cask 4 an inhalation 5 a preliminary or tentative piece of writing 6 a plan or drawing of a work to be done 7 a current of air 8 a device for regulating the current of air in a heating system 9 a written order for payment of money; check 10 *a*) the choosing or taking of persons, esp. for compulsory military service *b*) those so taken 11 the depth of water that a ship needs in order to float —*vt.* 1 to take, as for military service, by drawing from a group 2 to make a sketch of or plans for —*adj.* 1 used for pulling loads 2 drawn from a cask [*draft beer*] —**draft'er** *n.*

draft·ee (draf tē') *n.* a person drafted, esp. for military service

drafts·man (drafts'mən) *n., pl. -men* (-mən) 1 one who draws plans, as of machinery 2 an artist skillful in drawing —**drafts'man·ship'** *n.*

draft'y *adj.* -i-er, -i-est open to drafts of air

drag (drag) *vt., vi.* dragged, drag'ging [see DRAW] 1 to pull or be pulled with effort, esp. along the ground 2 to search (a lake bottom, etc.) with a dragnet or the like 3 to draw (something) out over a period of time; move or pass too slowly: often with *on* or *out* —*n.* 1 a dragging 2 a dragnet, grapnel, etc. 3 anything that hinders 4 [Slang] influence 5 [Slang] clothing of the opposite sex, esp. as worn by a male homosexual 6 [Slang] a puff of a cigarette, etc. 7 [Slang] street [the main *drag*] 8 [Slang] a dull person, situation, etc.

drag'gy (-ē) *adj.* -gi-er, -gi-est dragging; slow-moving, dull, etc.

drag'net *n.* 1 a net dragged along a lake bottom, etc., as for catching fish 2 an organized system or network for catching criminals, etc.

drag-on (drag'ən) *n.* [*< Gr drakōn*] a mythical monster, usually shown as a large, winged reptile breathing out fire

drag'on-fly *n., pl.* -flies' a large, long-bodied insect with transparent, net-veined wings

dra·goon (drə gōon') *n.* [*< Fr dragon, DRAGON*] a heavily armed cavalryman —*vt.* to force *into* doing something; coerce

drag race a race between cars accelerating from a standstill on a short, straight course (**drag strip**) —**drag'-race'**, -raced', -rac'ing, *vi.*

drain (drān) *vt.* [*OE dryge, dry*] 1 to draw off (liquid) gradually 2 to draw liquid from gradually 3 to drink all the liquid from (a cup, etc.) 4 to exhaust (strength, resources, etc.) gradually —*vi.* 1 to flow off or trickle through gradually 2 to become dry by draining 3 to disappear gradually; fade —*n.* 1 a channel or pipe for draining 2 a draining 3 that which gradually exhausts strength, etc. —**drain'er** *n.*

drain'age *n.* 1 a draining 2 a system of drains 3 that which is drained off 4 an area drained

drain'pipe *n.* a pipe used to carry off water, sewage, etc.

drake (drāk) *n.* [*ME*] a male duck

dram (dram) *n.* [*< Gr drachmē, handful*] 1 a unit of apothecaries' weight equal to 3.89 grams 2 a unit of avoirdupois weight equal to 1.77 grams 3 a small drink of alcoholic liquor.

dra·ma (drä'mə, dram'ə) *n.* [*< Gr*] 1 a literary composition to be performed by actors; play, esp. one that is not a comedy 2 the art of writing, acting, or producing plays 3 a series of events suggestive of those of a play 4 dramatic quality

Dram-a-mine (dram'ə mēn') *trademark* for a drug to relieve motion sickness

dra·mat·ic (drə mat'ik) *adj.* 1 of drama 2 like a play 3 vivid, striking, etc. —**dra·mat'i·cal·ly** *adv.*

dra·mat'ics *pl.n.* 1 [*usually with sing. v.*] the performing or producing of plays 2 exaggerated emotionalism

dram·a·tist (dram'ə tist, drä'mə-) *n.* a playwright

dram'a·tize' (-tiz') *vt.* -tized', -tiz'ing 1 to make into a drama 2 to regard or show in a dramatic manner —**dram'a·ti·za'tion** *n.*

drank (drank) *vt., vi. pt. of DRINK*

drape (drāp) *vt.* draped, drap'ing [*< VL drappus, cloth*] 1 to cover or hang as with cloth in loose folds 2 to arrange (a garment, etc.) in folds or hangings —*n.* 1 cloth hanging in loose folds 2 a heavy curtain hanging in loose folds

drap·er (drä'pər) *n.* [*Brit.*] a dealer in cloth and dry goods

drap'er·y *n., pl.* -er·ies 1 [*Brit.*] DRY GOODS 2 hangings or clothing arranged

in loose folds 3 [*pl.*] curtains of heavy material

dras·tic (dras'tik) *adj.* [*Gr drastikos, active*] having a strong effect; extreme —**dras'ti·cal·ly** *adv.*

draught (draft) *n., vt., adj.* now chiefly *Brit. sp. of DRAFT*

draughts (drafts) *n.* [*Brit.*] the game of checkers

draw (drô) *vt.* drew, drawn, draw'ing [*OE dragan*] 1 to make move toward one; pull 2 to pull up, down, back, in, or out 3 to need (a specified depth of water) to float in: said of a ship 4 to attract 5 to breathe in 6 to elicit (a reply, etc.) 7 to bring on; provoke 8 to receive [*to draw a salary*] 9 to withdraw (money) held in an account 10 to write (a check or draft) 11 to reach (a conclusion, etc.); deduce 12 to take or get (a playing card, etc.) 13 to stretch 14 to make (lines, pictures, etc.), as with a pencil 15 to make (comparisons, etc.) 16 to cause to flow —*vi.* 1 to draw something 2 to be drawn 3 to come; move 4 to shrink 5 to allow a draft of air, smoke, etc. to move through 6 to make a demand (*on*) —*n.* 1 a drawing or being drawn 2 the result of drawing 3 a thing drawn 4 a tie; stalemate 5 a thing that attracts 6 a shallow ravine —**draw out** 1 to extend 2 to take out; extract 3 to get (a person) to talk —**draw up** 1 to arrange in order 2 to draft (a document) 3 to stop

draw'back *n.* anything that prevents or lessens satisfaction; shortcoming

draw'bridge *n.* a bridge that can be raised or drawn aside, as to permit passage of ships

draw·er (drô'ər; *for* 2 drôr) *n.* 1 one that draws 2 a sliding box in a table, chest, etc.

drawers (drôrz) *pl.n.* UNDERPANTS

draw'ing *n.* 1 the act of one that draws; specif., the art of making pictures, etc., as with a pencil 2 a picture, etc. thus made 3 a lottery

drawing board a flat board to hold paper, etc. for making drawings —**back to the drawing board** [*Inf.*] back to the beginning, as to see what went wrong

drawing card an entertainer, show, etc. that draws a large audience

drawing room [*< withdrawing room. guests withdrew there after dinner*] a room where guests are received or entertained; living room

drawl (drôl) *vt., vi.* [*prob. < DRAW, v.*] to speak slowly, prolonging the vowels —*n.* such a way of speaking

drawn (drôn) *vt., vi. pp. of DRAW* —*adj.* 1 pulled out 2 disemboweled 3 tense; haggard

drawn butter melted butter

draw'string *n.* a string drawn through a hem, as to tighten a garment

dray (drā) *n.* [*OE dragan, to draw*] a low cart for carrying heavy loads

dread (dred) *vt.* [*OE ondrædan*] to anticipate with fear or distaste —*n.* 1 intense fear 2 fear mixed with awe 3 reluctance and uneasiness —*adj.*

inspiring dread

dread'ful (-fəl) *adj.* 1 awesome or terrible 2 [Inf.] very bad, offensive, etc. — **dread'ful-ly** *adv.*

dread'locks' *pl.n.* hair worn in long, thin braids or uncombed, twisted locks

dread'nought' or **dread'naught'** (-nôt') *n.* a large, heavily armored battleship

dream (drēm) *n.* [OE, joy, music] 1 a sequence of images, etc. passing through a sleeping person's mind 2 a daydream; reverie 3 a fond hope 4 anything dreamlike —*vi., vt.* **dreamed** or **dreamt** (dremt), **dream'ing** to have a dream or remote idea (*of*) —**dream up** [Inf.] to devise (a fanciful plan, etc.) — **dream'er** *n.* —**dream'less** *adj.* — **dream'like** *adj.*

dream'land' *n.* 1 any lovely but imaginary place 2 sleep

dream world 1 DREAMLAND 2 the realm of fantasy

dream'y *adj.* -i-er, -i-est 1 filled with dreams 2 fond of daydreaming 3 like something in a dream 4 soothing 5 [Slang] wonderful —**dream'i-ly** *adv.*

drear-y (drir'ē) *adj.* -i-er, -i-est [OE *dreorig*, sad] dismal: also [Old Poet.] **drear** —**drear'i-ly** *adv.* —**drear'i-ness** *n.*

dredg¹ (drej) *n.* [prob. < MDu] an apparatus for scooping up mud, etc., as in deepening channels —*vt., vi.* **dredged**, **dredg'ing** 1 to search for or gather (*up*) as with a dredge 2 to enlarge or clean out with a dredge

dredg² (drej) *vt.* **dredged**, **dredg'ing** [ME *dragge*, sweetmeat] to coat (food) with flour, etc.

dregs (dregz) *pl.n.* [< ON *dregg*] 1 particles settling at the bottom in a liquid 2 the most worthless part

Drei-ser (drī'sər, -zər), **The-o-dore** (Her-man Albert) (thē'ə dōr') 1871-1945; U.S. novelist

drench (drench) *vt.* [OE *drincan*, to drink] to make wet all over; soak

Dres-den (drez'dən) city in E Germany: pop. 481,000

dress (dres) *vt.* **dressed** or **drest**, **dress'ing** [< L *dirigere*, lay straight] 1 to put clothes on; clothe 2 to trim; adorn 3 to arrange (the hair) in a certain way 4 to align (troops) 5 to apply medicines and bandages to (a wound, etc.) 6 to prepare for use, esp. for cooking [*to dress a fowl*] 7 to smooth or finish (stone, wood, etc.) —*vi.* 1 to put on clothes 2 to dress formally 3 to line up in rank —*n.* 1 clothing 2 the usual outer garment of women, generally of one piece with a skirt —*adj.* 1 of or for dresses 2 for formal wear —**dress down** 1 to scold 2 to wear casual clothes to work, etc. —**dress up** to dress formally, elegantly, etc.

dres-sage (dre sähz') *n.* [Fr, training] horsemanship using slight movements to control the horse

dress circle a semicircle of seats in a theater, etc., usually behind and above the orchestra seats

dress code a set of rules governing

clothing to be worn, as in a given school or business

dress'er *n.* 1 one who dresses (in various senses) 2 a chest of drawers for clothes, usually with a mirror

dress'ing *n.* 1 the act of one that dresses 2 bandages, etc. applied to wounds 3 a sauce for salads, etc. 4 a stuffing for roast fowl, etc.

dress'ing-down' *n.* a sound scolding
dressing gown a loose robe for one not fully clothed, as when lounging

dress'mak'er *n.* one who makes dresses, etc. —**dress'mak'ing** *n.*

dress rehearsal a final rehearsal, as of a play, with costumes, etc.

dress'y *adj.* -i-er, -i-est 1 showy or elaborate in dress or appearance 2 stylish, elegant, etc. —**dress'i-ness** *n.*

drew (drō) *vt., vi. pt. of* DRAW

drib-ble (drib'al) *vi., vt.* -bled, -bling [< DRIP] 1 to flow, or let flow, in drops 2 to drool 3 *Sports* to move (a ball or puck) along by repeated bouncing, kicking, or tapping —*n.* 1 a dribbling 2 a tiny amount: also **drib'let** (-lit) — **drib'bler** *n.*

dried (drīd) *vt., vi. pt. & pp. of* DRY

dri-er (drī'ər) *n.* 1 a substance added to paint, etc. to make it dry fast 2 DRYER —*adj. compar. of* DRY

dri'est (-ist) *adj. superl. of* DRY

drift (drift) *n.* [OE *drifan*, to drive] 1 *a)* a being carried along, as by a current *b)* the course of this 2 a trend; tendency 3 general meaning; intent 4 a heap of snow, sand, etc. piled up by wind —*vi.* 1 to be carried along, as by a current 2 to go along aimlessly 3 to pile up in drifts —*vt.* to cause to drift — **drift'er** *n.*

drift'wood' *n.* wood drifting in the water or washed ashore

drill¹ (dril) *n.* [< Du *drillen*, to bore] 1 a tool for boring holes 2 *a)* systematic military or physical training *b)* the method or practice of teaching by repeated exercises —*vt., vi.* 1 to bore with a drill (the tool) 2 to train in, or teach by means of, a drill —**drill'er** *n.*

drill² (dril) *n.* [< ?] a planting machine for making holes or furrows and dropping seeds into them

drill³ (dril) *n.* [< L *trilix*, three-threaded] a coarse, twilled cotton cloth, used for uniforms, etc.

drill'mas'ter *n.* 1 an instructor in military drill 2 one who teaches by drilling
drill press a power-driven machine for drilling holes in metal, etc.

dri-ly (drī'lē) *adv.* DRYLY

drink (drɪŋk) *vt.* drank, drunk, **drink'ing** [OE *drincan*] 1 to swallow (liquid) 2 to absorb (liquid) 3 to swallow the contents of —*vi.* 1 to swallow liquid 2 to drink alcoholic liquor, esp. to excess — *n.* 1 any liquid for drinking 2 alcoholic liquor —**drink in** to take in eagerly with the senses or mind —**drink to** to drink a toast to —**drink'a-ble** *adj.* —**drink'er** *n.*

drip (drip) *vi., vt.* dripped or dript, **drip'ing** [OE *dryppan*] to fall, or let fall, in drops —*n.* 1 a dripping 2 the sound of falling drops of a liquid 3

[Slang] a dull person —**drip'per** *n.*

drip'-dry' *adj.* designating garments that dry quickly when hung wet and require little or no ironing

drive (*driv*) *vt.* **drove**, **driv-en** (*driv'ən*), **driv'ing** [OE *drifan*] 1 to force to go; push forward 2 to force into or from a state or act 3 to force to work, esp. to excess 4 to hit (a ball, etc.) hard 5 to make penetrate 6 *a*) to control the movement of; operate (a car, bus, etc.) *b*) to transport in a car, etc. 7 to push (a bargain, etc.) through 8 to motivate, influence, etc. —*vi.* 1 to advance violently 2 to try hard, as to reach a goal 3 to drive a blow, ball, etc. 4 to be driven: said of a car, bus, etc. 5 to operate, or go in, a car, etc. —*n.* 1 a driving 2 a trip in a car, etc. 3 *a*) a road for cars, etc. *b*) a driveway 4 a rounding up of animals 5 an organized effort to gain an objective 6 energy and initiative 7 a strong impulse or urge 8 the propelling mechanism of a machine, etc. 9 a computer device that reads and writes data —**drive at** to mean; intend —**drive in** 1 to force in, as by a blow 2 *Baseball* to cause (a runner) to score or (a run) to be scored

drive'-by' *n., pl. -bys'* a shooting in which the shots are fired from a passing car, etc.

drive'-in' *n.* a restaurant, movie theater, bank, etc. designed to serve people seated in their cars

driv-el (*driv'əl*) *vi., vt.* -eled or -elled, -el-ing or -el-ling [OE *dreflian*] 1 to let (saliva) drool 2 to speak or say in a silly, stupid way —*n.* silly, stupid talk —**driv'el-er** or **driv'el-ler** *n.*

driv'en (-ən) *adj.* acting because of urgency or compulsion

driv-er (*drī'vər*) *n.* a person or thing that drives, as *a*) one who drives a car, etc. *b*) one who herds cattle *c*) a golf club for hitting from the tee

drive shaft a shaft that transmits motion, as to the rear axle of a car

drive'-through' *n.* a restaurant, bank, etc. that provides service through a window to a person in a car, etc.: also *sp.* **drive'-thru'**

drive'train' *n.* the system that transmits an engine's power to wheels, a propeller, etc.

drive'way' *n.* a path for cars, from a street to a garage, house, etc.

driz-zle (*driz'əl*) *vi., vt.* -zled, -zling [prob. < ME] to rain in fine, misty drops —*n.* a fine, misty rain —**driz'zly** *adj.*

drogue (*drög*) *n.* [prob. < Scot *drug*, *drag*] a funnel-shaped device towed behind an aircraft, etc., as for its drag effect or as a target

droll (*dröl*) *adj.* [< Fr < MDu *drol*, stout fellow] amusing in an odd or wry way —**droll'er-y** (-ər ē), *pl. -ies*, *n.* —**droll'ness** *n.* —**drol'ly** *adv.*

drom-e-dar-y (*drām'ə der'ē*) *n., pl. -ies* [< LL *dromedarius* (camelus), running (camel)] an Arabian camel, esp. one for riding

drone¹ (*drōn*) *n.* [OE *dran*] 1 a male bee or ant that does no work 2 an idler;

loafer 3 a drudge 4 a pilotless airplane

drone² (*drōn*) *vi.* **droned**, **dron'ing** [< prec.] 1 to make a continuous humming sound 2 to talk in a monotonous way —*vt.* to utter in a monotonous tone —*n.* a droning sound

drool (*drōl*) *vi.* [< DRIVEL] 1 to let saliva flow from one's mouth 2 to flow from the mouth, as saliva —*n.* saliva running from the mouth

droop (*drōop*) *vi.* [< ON *drūpa*] 1 to sink, hang, or bend down 2 to lose strength or vitality 3 to become dejected —*vt.* to let hang down —*n.* a drooping —**droop'y**, -i-er, -i-est, *adj.* —**droop'i-ness** *n.*

drop (*dräp*) *n.* [OE *dropa*] 1 a bit of liquid rounded in shape by falling, etc. 2 anything like this in shape, etc. 3 a very small quantity 4 a sudden fall, descent, slump, etc. 5 something that drops, as a curtain or trapdoor 6 the distance between a higher and lower level —*vi.* **dropped**, **drop'ping** 1 to fall in drops 2 to fall; come down 3 to fall exhausted, wounded, or dead 4 to pass into a specified state [to drop off to sleep] 5 to come to an end [let the matter drop] 6 to become lower —*vt.* 1 to let or make fall 2 to utter (a hint, etc.) casually 3 to send (a letter) 4 to stop, end, or dismiss 5 to lower or lessen 6 [Inf.] to leave at a specified place: often with *off* 7 to omit or remove 8 [Slang] to lose (money, etc.) —**drop in** (or *over* or *by*) to pay a casual visit —**drop off** [Inf.] to fall asleep —**drop out** to stop participating —**drop'let** (-lit) *n.*

drop'-dead' [Slang] *adj.* spectacular: striking —*adv.* extremely [*drop-dead handsome*]

drop kick *Rugby, etc.* a kick of a dropped ball just as it hits the ground —**drop'-kick'** *vt., vi.* —**drop'-kick'er** *n.*

drop'-off' *n.* 1 a very steep drop 2 a decline, as in sales or prices

drop'out' *n.* one who withdraws from school before graduating

drop'per *n.* a small tube with a hollow rubber bulb at one end, used to measure out a liquid in drops

drop-sy (*dräp'sē*) *n.* [< Gr *hydrōps* < *hydōr*, water] former term for EDEMA

dross (*drōs*) *n.* [OE *dros*] 1 scum on molten metal 2 refuse; rubbish

drought (*drou*) *n.* [< OE *drugoth*, dryness] 1 prolonged dry weather 2 a prolonged shortage

drove¹ (*drōv*) *n.* [OE *draff*] 1 a number of cattle, sheep, etc. driven or moving along as a group; flock; herd 2 a moving crowd of people: usually used in *pl.*

drove² (*drōv*) *vt., vi. pt. of DRIVE*

dro-ver (*drō'vər*) *n.* one who herds droves of animals, esp. to market

drown (*droun*) *vi.* [ME *drounen*] to die by suffocation in water —*vt.* 1 to kill by such suffocation 2 to flood 3 to be so loud as to overcome (another sound): usually with *out*

drowse (*drōuz*) *vi.* **drowsed**, **drows'ing** [< OE *drusian*, become sluggish] to be

half asleep; doze —*n.* a doze
drows-y (drou'zē) *adj.* -i-er, -i-est being or making sleepy or half asleep —
drows'i-ly *adv.* —**drows'i-ness** *n.*
drub (drub) *vt.* drubbed, drub'bing [*<* Ar *daraba*, to cudgel] 1 to beat as with a stick 2 to defeat soundly —**drub'ber** *n.* —**drub'bing** *n.*
drudge (druj) *n.* [*ME druggen*] one who does hard or tedious work —*vi.* drudged, drudg'ing to do such work —**drudg'er-y**, *pl.* -ies, *n.*
drug (drug) *n.* [*<* OFr *drogue*] 1 any substance used as or in a medicine 2 a narcotic, hallucinogen, etc. —*vt.* drugged, drug'ging 1 to put a harmful drug in (a drink, etc.) 2 to stupefy as with a drug —**drug on the market** a thing in plentiful supply for which there is little or no demand
drug'gie (-ē) *n.* [Slang] a habitual user of drugs: also **drug'gy**, *pl.* -gies
drug'gist (-ist) *n.* 1 a dealer in drugs, medical supplies, etc. 2 a pharmacist 3 a drugstore owner or manager
drug'store *n.* a store where drugs, medical supplies, and various items are sold and prescriptions are filled
dru-id (dru'id) *n.* [*<* Celt] [*often D-*] a member of a Celtic religious order in ancient Britain, Ireland, and France —**dru'id-ism** *n.*
drum (drum) *n.* [*<* Du *trom*] 1 a percussion instrument consisting of a hollow cylinder with a membrane stretched over the end or ends 2 the sound produced by beating a drum 3 any drum-like cylindrical object 4 the eardrum —*vi.* drummed, drum'ming 1 to beat a drum 2 to tap continually —*vt.* 1 to play (a rhythm, etc.) as on a drum 2 to instill (ideas, facts, etc.) *into* by continued repetition —**drum out of** to expel from in disgrace —**drum up** to get (business, etc.) by soliciting
drum·lin (drum'lin) *n.* [*<* Ir] a low, flattened, oval mound or hill formed by a glacier
drum major one who leads a marching band, keeping time with a baton —**drum ma'jor-ette** (-et') *fem.*
drum'mer *n.* 1 a drum player 2 [Old Inf.] a traveling salesman
drum'stick *n.* 1 a stick for beating a drum 2 the lower half of the leg of a cooked fowl
drunk (drunk) *vt., vi. pp. of DRINK* —*adj.* 1 overcome by alcoholic liquor; intoxicated 2 overcome by any powerful emotion 3 [Inf.] DRUNKEN (sense 2) Usually used in the predicate —*n.* 1 [Inf.] a drunken person 2 [Slang] a drinking spree
drunk'ard *n.* a person who often gets drunk
drunk'en *adj.* 1 intoxicated 2 caused by or occurring during intoxication Used before a noun —**drunk'en-ly** *adv.* —**drunk'en-ness** *n.*
drupe (druop) *n.* [*<* Gr *druppa* (*elaa*), olive] any fleshy fruit with an inner stone, as a peach
dry (dri) *adj.* dri'er, dri'est [*OE dryge*] 1

not under water [*dry land*] 2 not wet or damp 3 lacking rain or water; arid 4 thirsty 5 not yielding milk 6 solid; not liquid 7 not sweet [*dry wine*] 8 prohibiting alcoholic beverages [*a dry town*] 9 funny in a quiet but sharp way [*dry wit*] 10 unproductive 11 boring; dull —*n., pl.* **drys** [Inf.] a prohibitionist —*vt., vi.* dried, dry'ing to make or become dry —**dry up** 1 to make or become thoroughly dry 2 to make or become unproductive 3 [Slang] to stop talking —**dry'ly** *adv.* —**dry'ness** *n.*
dry·ad (dri'ad') *n.* [*<* Gr *drys*, tree] [*also D-*] Gr. & Rom. Myth. a tree nymph
dry cell a voltaic cell containing a moist, pastelike electrolyte which cannot spill
dry'-clean' *vt.* to clean (garments, etc.) with a solvent other than water, as naphtha —**dry cleaner**
dry dock a dock from which the water can be emptied, used for building and repairing ships
dry'er *n.* 1 one that dries; specif., an appliance for drying clothes with heat 2 DRIER
dry farming farming without irrigation, by conserving the soil's moisture, etc.
dry goods cloth, cloth products, etc.
dry ice solidified carbon dioxide: used as a refrigerant
dry run [Inf.] a simulated or practice performance; rehearsal
dry'wall' *n.* PLASTERBOARD —*vt., vi.* to cover (a wall, etc.) with plasterboard
DSL *abbrev.* digital subscriber line
DST *abbrev.* daylight saving time
Du *abbrev.* Dutch
du·al (doo'al) *adj.* [*<* L *duo*, two] 1 of two 2 double; twofold —**du'al-ism** *n.* —**du'al'i-ty** (-al'a tē) *n.*
dub¹ (dub) *vt.* dubbed, dub'bing [*<* OE *dubbian*, to strike] 1 *a*) to confer a title or rank upon *b*) to name or nickname 2 to smooth by hammering, scraping, etc. —**dub'ber** *n.*
dub² (dub) *vt.* dubbed, dub'bing [*<* DOUBLE] to provide with a soundtrack, esp. one with dialogue in another language —**dub in** to insert (dialogue, music, etc.) in the soundtrack —**dub'ber** *n.*
dub·bin (dub'in) *n.* [*<* DUB¹] a greasy preparation for waterproofing leather
du·bi·e·ty (doo bi'a tē) *n.* 1 a being dubious 2 *pl.* -ties a doubtful thing
du·bi·ous (doo'bē əs) *adj.* [*<* L *dubius*, uncertain] 1 causing doubt 2 skeptical 3 questionable —**du'bi-ous-ly** *adv.*
Dub·lin (dub'lən) capital of Ireland: pop. 478,000
du·cal (doo'kəl) *adj.* [*<* LL *ducalis*, of a leader] of a duke or dukedom
duc·at (duk'ət) *n.* [*see* DUCHY] any of several former European coins
duch·ess (duch'is) *n.* 1 a duke's wife or widow 2 a woman ruling a duchy
duch'y (-ē) *n., pl.* -ies [*<* L *dux*, leader] the territory ruled by a duke or duchess
duck¹ (duk) *n.* [*<* OE *duce*, diver] 1 a small waterfowl with a flat bill, a short neck, and webbed feet 2 the flesh of a duck as food

duck² (duk) *vt., vi.* [ME *douken*] 1 to plunge or dip under water for a moment 2 to lower or bend (the head, body, etc.) suddenly, as to avoid a blow 3 [Inf.] to avoid (an issue, etc.) —*n.* a ducking

duck³ (duk) *n.* [Du *doek*] a cotton or linen cloth like canvas but lighter in weight

duck'bill *n.* PLATYPUS

duck'ling *n.* a young duck

duck'pins *n.* a game like bowling, played with smaller pins and balls

duck'y *adj.* -i-er, -i-est [Old Slang] pleasing, delightful, etc.

duct (dukt) *n.* [< L *ducere*, to lead] a tube, channel, or pipe, as for passage of a liquid —**duct'less** *adj.*

duc-tile (duk'til) *adj.* [see prec.] 1 that can be drawn or hammered thin without breaking: said of metals 2 easily led; tractable —**duc-til'i-ty** (-til'ə tē) *n.*

ductless gland an endocrine gland

duct tape a very strong, waterproof tape, used to seal ducts, hoses, etc.

duct'work *n.* a system of ducts used to circulate air for heating, cooling, etc.

dud (dud) *n.* [prob. < Du *dood*, dead] [Inf.] 1 a bomb, etc. that fails to explode 2 a failure

dude (dōd) *n.* [< ?] 1 a dandy; fop 2 [West Slang] a tourist at a ranch 3 [Slang] any man or boy —*vt., vi.*

dud'ed, dud'ing [Slang] to dress up, esp. in showy clothes: usually with *up*

dude ranch a vacation resort on a ranch, with horseback riding, etc.

dud-geon (duj'an) *n.* now chiefly in in high dudgeon, very angry, offended, etc.

duds (dudz) *pl.n.* [ME *dudde*, cloth, cloak < ?] [Inf.] 1 clothes 2 belongings

due (dō, dyō) *adj.* [< L *debere*, owe] 1 owed or owing as a debt; payable 2 suitable; proper 3 enough [*due care*] 4 expected or scheduled to arrive —*adv.* exactly; directly [*due west*] —*n.* 1 deserved recognition 2 [*pl.*] fees or other charges [*union dues*] —**due to** 1 caused by 2 [Inf.] because of —**pay one's dues** [Slang] to earn a right, etc., as by having suffered in struggle

due bill a receipt for money paid, exchangeable for goods or services only

du-el (dō'el) *n.* [< medieval L *duellum*] 1 a prearranged fight between two persons armed with deadly weapons 2 any contest like this —*vi., vt.* -eled or -elled, -el-ing or -el-ling to fight a duel with —**du'el-ist** or **du'el-list**, **du'el-er** or **du'el-ler** *n.*

due process (of law) legal proceedings established to protect individual rights and liberties

du-et (dō et') *n.* [< L *duo*, two] 1 a composition for two voices or instruments 2 the two performers of this

duf-fel (or **duf-fle**) **bag** (duf'al) [after *Duffel*, town in Belgium] a large cloth bag for carrying clothing, etc.

duff-er (duf'ər) *n.* [< thieves' slang *duff*, to fake] [Inf.] 1 a slow-witted or dawdling elderly person 2 a relatively unskilled golfer

dug (dug) *vt., vi. pt. & pp. of DIG*

dug'out *n.* 1 a boat hollowed out of a log 2 a shelter, as in warfare, dug in the ground 3 *Baseball* a covered shelter, one for each team

DUI (dē'yōō'ī) *n.* a citation for driving while under the influence of alcohol, drugs, etc.

du jour (dō zhōor') offered on this day [*soup du jour*]

duke¹ (dōok) *n.* [< L *dux*, leader] 1 a prince ruling an independent duchy 2 a nobleman next in rank to a prince —**duke'dom** *n.*

duke² (dōok) *n.* [*pl.*] [Slang] the fists or hands —**duke it out** to fight, esp. with the fists

dul-cet (dul'sit) *adj.* [< L *dulcis*, sweet] soothing or pleasant to hear

dul-ci-mer (dul'sə mər) *n.* [< L *dulce*, sweet + *melos*, song] a musical instrument with metal strings, which are struck with two small hammers or plucked with a plectrum or quill

dull (dul) *adj.* [OE *dol*] 1 mentally slow; stupid 2 physically slow; sluggish 3 boring; tedious 4 not sharp; blunt 5 not feeling or felt keenly 6 not vivid or bright [*a dull color*] 7 not distinct; muffled [*a dull thud*] —*vt., vi.* to make or become dull —**dull'ness** *n.* —**dul'ly** *adv.*

dull'ard (-ərd) *n.* a stupid person

Du-luth (də lōoth') city & port in NE Minnesota, on Lake Superior: pop. 85,000

du-ly (dōō'lē) *adv.* in due manner; in the proper way, at the right time, etc.

Du-mas (dōō mǎ'), Alexandre 1802-70; Fr. novelist & playwright

dumb (dum) *adj.* [OE] 1 lacking the power of speech; mute 2 silent 3 [Ger *dumm*] [Inf.] stupid —**dumb down** [Inf.] to make or become less intellectually demanding —**dumb'ly** *adv.* —**dumb'ness** *n.*

dumb'bell *n.* 1 a device consisting of round weights joined by a short bar, lifted for muscular exercise 2 [Slang] a stupid person

dumb'found' or **dum'found'** *vt.* [DUMB + (CON)FOUND] to make speechless by shocking; amaze

dumb'wait'er *n.* a small elevator for sending food, etc. between floors

dum-dum (bullet) (dum'dum') [after *Dumdum*, arsenal in India] a soft-nosed bullet that expands when it hits, causing a large wound

dum-my (dum'ē) *n., pl. -mies* 1 a figure made in human form, as for displaying clothing 2 an imitation; sham 3 [Slang] a stupid person 4 *Bridge* the declarer's partner, whose hand is exposed on the table and played by the declarer —*adj.* sham

dump (dump) *vt.* [prob. < ON] 1 to unload in a heap or mass 2 to throw away (rubbish, etc.) 3 to sell (a commodity) in a large quantity at a low price 4 *Comput.* a) to transfer (data) to another section of storage b) to make a printout of (data) —*n.* 1 a place for dumping rubbish, etc. 2 *Mil.* a temporary storage center in the field 3 an

ugly, run-down place —(down) in the dumps [Inf.] in low spirits —**dump on** [Slang] to treat with contempt

dump'er *n.* [Slang] a container for refuse

dump-ling (dʌmp'liŋ) *n.* [\ll ?] 1 a small piece of steamed or boiled dough served with meat or soup 2 a crust of baked dough filled with fruit

Dump-ster (dʌmp'stər) *trademark* for a large metal trash bin, often one emptied by a special truck —*n.* [usually d-] such a trash bin

dump'y *adj.* -i-er, -i-est 1 short and thick; squat 2 [Inf.] ugly, run-down, etc.

dun¹ (dʌn) *adj., n.* [OE] dull grayish-brown

dun² (dʌn) *vt., vi.* **dunned**, **dun'ning** [\ll dial. var. of DIN] to ask (a debtor) repeatedly for payment —*n.* an insistent demand for payment

dunce (dʌns) *n.* [after John Duns Scotus, 13th-c. Scot scholar] a dull, ignorant person

dune (dūn) *n.* [Fr \ll MDu] a rounded hill or ridge of drifted sand

dung (dʌŋ) *n.* [OE] animal excrement; manure

dun-ga-ree (dʌŋ'gə rē') *n.* [Hindi *dungrī*] 1 a coarse cotton cloth 2 [*pl.*] work trousers or overalls made of this

dun-geon (dʌn'jən) *n.* [\ll OFr *donjon*] a dark underground cell or prison

dung'hill *n.* a heap of dung

dunk (dʌŋk) *vt.* [Ger *tunken*] 1 to dip (bread, etc.) into coffee, etc. before eating it 2 to immerse briefly

Dun-kirk (dʌn'kɜrk') seaport in N France: scene of the evacuation of Allied troops under fire (1940)

du-o (dū'ō) *n., pl.* **du'os** [It] 1 DUET (esp. sense 2) 2 a pair; couple

du-o-de-num (dū'ō-dē'nəm, dū'ād'nəm) *n., pl.* -nā (-nə) or -nums [\ll L *duodeni*, twelve each: its length is about twelve fingers' breadth] the first section of the small intestine, below the stomach —**du'o-de'nal** *adj.*

dup *abbrev.* duplicate

dupe (dūp) *n.* [\ll L *upupa*, stupid bird] a person easily tricked —*vt.* **duped**, **dup'ing** to deceive; fool; trick —**dup'er** *n.*

du-plex (dū'pleks') *adj.* [L \ll *duo*, TWO + -plex, -fold] double —*n.* 1 an apartment with rooms on two floors 2 a house consisting of two separate family units

du-pli-cate (dū'pli kit; *for v.*, -kāt') *adj.* [\ll L *duplicare*, to double] 1 double 2 corresponding exactly —*n.* an exact copy —*vt.* -cat'ed, -cat'ing 1 to make an exact copy of 2 to make or do again —**du'pli-ca'tion** *n.*

duplicating machine a machine for making copies of a letter, drawing, etc.

du-plic-i-ty (dū'plis'ə tē) *n., pl.* -ties [\ll LL *duplicitas*] hypocritical cunning or deception

du-ra-ble (dūr'ə bəl) *adj.* [\ll L *durare*, to last] 1 lasting in spite of hard wear

or frequent use 2 stable —**du'ra-bil'i-ty** *n.* —**du'ra-bly** *adv.*

du-ra ma-ter (dūr'ə māt'ər) [\ll ML, lit., hard mother, transl. of Ar term] the tough, outermost membrane covering the brain and spinal cord

dur-ance (dūr'əns) *n.* [see DURABLE] long imprisonment: mainly in **in dur-ance vile**

du-ra-tion (dū' rā'shən) *n.* [see DURABLE] the time that a thing continues or lasts.

du-ress (dū' res') *n.* [\ll L *durus*, hard] coercion

Dur-ham (dər'əm) city in NC North Carolina: pop. 137,000

dur-ing (dūr'ɪŋ) *prep.* [see DURABLE] 1 throughout the entire time of 2 in the course of

durst (dɜrst) *vt., vi.* *now chiefly dial. pt. of DARE*

du-rum (dūr'əm) *n.* [\ll L *durus*, hard] a hard wheat that yields flour for macaroni, spaghetti, etc.

dusk (dʌsk) *n.* [\ll OE *dox*, dark-colored] 1 the dim part of twilight 2 dusky quality —**dusk'y**, -i-er, -i-est, *adj.*

dust (dʌst) *n.* [OE] 1 powdery earth or any finely powdered matter 2 earth 3 disintegrated mortal remains 4 anything worthless —*vt.* 1 to sprinkle with dust, powder, etc. 2 to rid of dust, as by wiping: often with *off* —*vi.* to remove dust, as from furniture —**bite the dust** [Inf.] to die, esp. in battle —**dust'less** *adj.*

dust bowl an arid region with eroded topsoil easily blown off by winds

dust'er *n.* 1 a person or thing that dusts 2 a lightweight housecoat

dust'pan *n.* a shovel-like pan into which floor dust is swept

dust'y *adj.* -i-er, -i-est 1 covered with or full of dust 2 powdery 3 muted with gray: said of a color —**dust'i-ness** *n.*

Dutch (dʌtʃ) *n.* the language of the Netherlands —*adj.* of the Netherlands or its people, language, or culture —**go Dutch** [Inf.] to have each pay his or her own expenses —**in Dutch** [Inf.] in trouble or disfavor —**the Dutch** Dutch people

Dutch door a door with upper and lower halves that can be opened separately

Dutch oven a heavy pot with an arched lid, for pot roasts, etc.

Dutch treat [Inf.] any date, etc. on which each pays his or her own expenses

Dutch uncle [Inf.] one who bluntly and sternly lectures another, often with benevolent intent

du-te-ous (dū'tē əs) *adj.* dutiful; obedient —**du'te-ous-ly** *adv.*

du-ti-a-ble (dū'tē ə bəl) *adj.* necessitating payment of a duty or tax

du-ti-ful (dū'ti fəl) *adj.* showing, or resulting from, a sense of duty; obedient —**du'ti-ful-ly** *adv.*

du-ty (dū'tē) *n., pl.* -ties [see DUE & -TY] 1 obedience or respect to be shown to one's parents, elders, etc. 2 any action required by one's position or by

moral or legal considerations, etc. 3 service, esp. military service [*overseas duty*] 4 a tax, as on imports —*on* (or *off*) *duty* at (or temporarily relieved from) one's work

du·vet (doo vā', dyoo-) *n.* a comforter, often down-filled, within a slipcover

DVD *n.* [*< d(igital) v(ideo) d(isc)*] a digital optical disc for recording images, sounds, or data for reproduction; specif. one on which a film has been recorded

dwarf (dwôrf) *n., pl. dwarfs* or *dwarves* (dwôrvz) [*< OE dweorg*] 1 any abnormally small person, animal, or plant 2 *Folklore* a little being in human form, with magic powers —*vt.* 1 to stunt the growth of 2 to make seem small in comparison —*vi.* to become dwarfed —*adj.* undersized —**dwarf'ish** *adj.* —**dwarf'ism** *n.*

dweeb (dwēb) *n.* [Slang] a person regarded as dull, awkward, unsophisticated, etc.

dwell (dwel) *vi.* dwelt or dwelled, dwell'ing [*< OE dwellan*, to hinder] to make one's home; reside —**dwell on** (or *upon*) to think or talk about at length —**dwell'er** *n.*

dwell'ing (place) [ME: see prec.] a residence; abode

DWI (dē'dub'al yooī') *n.* a citation for driving while intoxicated

dwin·dle (dwin'dəl) *vi.* -dled, -dling [*< OE dwīnan*, waste away] to keep on becoming smaller or less; diminish; shrink

dyb·buk (dib'ək) *n.* [Heb *dibbūq*] *Jewish Folklore* the spirit of a dead person that enters the body of a living person

dye (dī) *n.* [*< OE deag*] a substance or solution for coloring fabric, hair, etc.; also, the color produced —*vt.* dyed, dye'ing to color with dye —**dy'er** *n.*

dyed'-in-the-wool' *adj.* not changing, as in beliefs

dye'stuff' *n.* any substance constituting or yielding a dye

dy·ing (dī'ing) *vi. prp. of DIE*¹ —*adj.* 1 about to die or end 2 at death —*n.* death

dy·nam·ic (dī nam'ik) *adj.* [*< Gr dynas-thai*, be able] 1 relating to bodies in motion 2 energetic; vigorous —**dy·nam'i·cal·ly** *adv.*

dy·nam'ics *n.* the science dealing with motions produced by given forces —*pl.n.* the forces operative in any field

dy·na·mite (dī'nə mīt') *n.* [see DYNAMIC] a powerful explosive made with nitroglycerin —*vt.* -mit'ed, -mit'ing to blow up with dynamite

dy·na·mo (dī'nə mō') *n., pl. -mos'* [see DYNAMIC] 1 former term for GENERATOR 2 a dynamic person

dy·nas·ty (dī'nəs tē) *n., pl. -ties* [*< Gr dynasteia*, rule] a succession of rulers who are members of the same family —**dy·nas'tic** (-nas'tik) *adj.*

dys- [Gr] prefix bad, ill, difficult, etc.

dys·en·ter·y (dis'an ter'ē) *n.* [*< Gr dys-*, bad + *entera*, bowels] an intestinal inflammation characterized by abdominal pain and bloody diarrhea

dys·func·tion (dis funk'shən) *n.* abnormal or impaired functioning —**dys·func'tion·al** *adj.*

dys·lex·i·a (dis lek'sē ə) *n.* [*< DYS-* + *L lexis*, speech] impairment of the ability to read —**dys·lex'ic** or **dys·lec'tic** *adj., n.*

dys·pep·si·a (dis pep'sē ə, -shə) *n.* [*< Gr dys-*, bad + *pepsis*, digestion] indigestion —**dys·pep'tic** *adj., n.*

dz abbrev. dozen(s)

E

e or **E** (ē) *n., pl. e's, E's* the fifth letter of the English alphabet

E¹ (ē) *n.* 1 *Educ.* a grade for below-average work or, sometimes, excellence 2 *Music* the third tone in the scale of C major

E² abbrev. 1 east(ern) 2 *Baseball* error(s) 3 *Physics* energy

e- prefix EX-

E- or **e-** prefix done, etc. electronically on the Internet [*E-commerce*]

each (ēch) *adj., pron.* [OE *ælc*] every one of two or more considered separately —*adv.* apiece Abbrev. *ea.* —**each other** each one the other or others; one another

ea·ger (ē'gər) *adj.* [*< L acer*] keenly desiring; impatient or anxious —**ea'ger·ly** *adv.* —**ea'ger·ness** *n.*

ea·gle (ē'gəl) *n.* [*< L aquila*] 1 a large bird of prey, with sharp vision and powerful wings 2 a representation of the eagle, as the U.S. emblem 3 *Golf* a score of two under par on a hole

ea'gle-eyed' *adj.* having keen vision

ea·glet (ē'glit) *n.* a young eagle

ear¹ (ir) *n.* [OE *ēare*] 1 the part of the body that perceives sound 2 the visible, external part of the ear 3 one's sense of hearing or hearing ability 4 anything like an ear —**be all ears** to listen attentively —**give** (or *lend*) *ear* to give attention; heed —**play by ear** to play (music) without using notation —**play it by ear** [Inf.] to improvise

ear² (ir) *n.* [*< OE ēar*] the grain-bearing spike of a cereal plant, esp. of corn —*vi.* to sprout ears

ear'ache' *n.* an ache in the ear

ear'drum' *n.* TYMPANIC MEMBRANE

earl (ɛrl) *n.* [*< OE eorl*, warrior] a British nobleman ranking above a viscount —**earl'dom** *n.*

ear'lobe' *n.* the fleshy lower part of the external ear

ear·ly (ur'lē) *adv., adj.* -li·er, -li·est [*< OE ær*, before + *-lice*, *-ly*] 1 near the beginning 2 before the expected or usual time 3 in the distant past 4 in the near future —**early on** at an early

stage —**ear'li-ness** *n.*

ear'mark' *n.* 1 a mark put on the ear of livestock 2 an identifying mark or feature —**vt.** 1 to put such a mark on 2 to reserve for a special purpose

ear'muffs' (-mufs') *pl.n.* coverings worn over the ears in cold weather

earn (urn) **vt.** [OE *earnian*] 1 to receive (wages, etc.) for one's work 2 to get as deserved 3 to receive (interest, etc.) as from a bank account —**earn'er** *n.*

ear·nest¹ (ur'nist) **adj.** [OE *eornoste*] serious and intense; not joking —**in earnest** 1 serious 2 in a determined manner —**ear'nest-ly** **adv.** —**ear'nest-ness** *n.*

ear·nest² (ur'nist) *n.* [ult. < Heb *era-von*] money, etc. given as a pledge in binding a bargain

earn'ings *pl.n.* 1 wages or other recompense 2 profits, interest, etc.

ear'phone' *n.* a receiver for radio, etc., held to, or put into, the ear

ear'ring' *n.* a ring or other small ornament for the lobe of the ear

ear'shot' *n.* the distance within which a sound can be heard

ear'split'ting **adj.** so loud as to hurt the ears; deafening

earth (arth) *n.* [OE *eorthe*] 1 [often E-] the planet we live on, the third planet from the sun: see PLANET 2 this world, as distinguished from heaven and hell 3 land, as distinguished from sea or sky 4 soil; ground —**down to earth** 1 practical; realistic 2 sincere; without affectation

Earth Day April 22, a day on which environmentalist concerns are acknowledged

earth'en **adj.** made of earth or clay

earth'en-ware' *n.* clay pottery

earth'ling *n.* a human being: now mainly in science fiction

earth'ly **adj.** 1 *a)* terrestrial *b)* worldly 2 conceivable [no *earthly* reason]

earth'quake' *n.* a trembling of the earth's crust, caused by underground volcanic forces or shifting of rock

earth'ward **adv., adj.** toward the earth: also **earth'wards** **adv.**

earth'work' *n.* an embankment made by piling up earth, esp. as a fortification

earth'worm' *n.* a round, segmented worm that burrows in the soil

earth'y **adj.** -i-er, -i-est 1 of or like earth 2 *a)* coarse; unrefined *b)* simple and natural

ease (ēz) *n.* [< L *adjacens*, lying nearby] 1 freedom from pain or trouble; comfort 2 natural manner; poise 3 freedom from difficulty; facility 4 affluence —**vt.** **eased, eas'ing** 1 to free from pain or trouble; comfort 2 to lessen (pain, anxiety, etc.) 3 to facilitate 4 to reduce the strain or pressure of 5 to move by careful shifting, etc. —**vi.** to become less tense, severe, etc.

ea·sel (ē'zəl) *n.* [ult. < L *asinus*, ass] an upright frame or tripod to hold an artist's canvas, etc.

ease·ment (ēz'mənt) *n.* Law a right

that one may have in another's land, as the right to pass through

eas·i·ly (ē'zə lē) **adv.** 1 with ease 2 certainly 3 very likely

east (ēst) *n.* [OE] 1 the direction in which sunrise occurs (90° on the compass) 2 a region in or toward this direction —**adj.** 1 in, of, toward, or facing the east 2 from the east [an *east* wind] —**adv.** in or toward the east —**the East** 1 the eastern part of the U.S. 2 Asia and the nearby islands

East Asia countries of E Asia, including China, Japan, North & South Korea, and Mongolia —**East Asian**

East Berlin see BERLIN

East China Sea part of the Pacific Ocean, between China & Japan

Eas·ter (ēs'tər) *n.* [< OE *Eastre*, dawn goddess] an annual Christian festival in the spring, celebrating the resurrection of Jesus

east'er-ly **adj., adv.** 1 in or toward the east 2 from the east

east'ern **adj.** 1 in, of, or toward the east 2 from the east 3 [E-] of the East

east'ern-er *n.* a person born or living in the east

Eastern Hemisphere that half of the earth which includes Europe, Africa, Asia, and Australia

Eastern Orthodox Church the Christian church dominant in E Europe, W Asia, and N Africa

East Germany see GERMANY

East In·dies (in'dēz') Malay Archipelago; esp., the islands of Indonesia —**East Indian**

east'ward **adv., adj.** toward the east [moving *eastward*]: also **east'wards** **adv.**

eas·y (ē'zē) **adj.** -i-er, -i-est [see EASE] 1 not difficult 2 free from anxiety, pain, etc. 3 comfortable; restful 4 free from constraint; not stiff 5 not strict or severe 6 *a)* unhurried *b)* gradual —**adv.** [Inf.] easily —**take it easy** [Inf.] 1 to refrain from anger, haste, etc. 2 to relax; rest —**eas'i-ness** *n.*

easy chair a stuffed armchair

eas'y-go'ing **adj.** 1 acting in a relaxed manner 2 not strict; lenient

eat (ēt) **vt.** ate, eat'en, eat'ing [OE *etan*] 1 to chew and swallow (food) 2 to consume or ravage: with *away* or *up* 3 to destroy, as acid does; corrode 4 to make by or as by eating [acid *eats* holes in cloth] 5 [Slang] to worry or bother —**vi.** to eat food; have a meal —**eat'a-ble** **adj.** —**eat'er** *n.*

eat·er·y (ēt'ər ē) *n., pl.* -ies [Inf.] a restaurant

eats *pl.n.* [Inf.] food

eaves (ēvz) *pl.n., sing.* eave [< OE *efes*, edge] the projecting lower edge or edges of a roof

eaves'drop' **vi.** -dropped', -drop'ping [prob. < *eavesdropper*, one who stands under the eaves to listen] to listen secretly to a private conversation —**eaves'drop'per** *n.*

ebb (eb) *n.* [OE *ebba*] 1 the flow of the tide back toward the sea 2 a lessening —**vi.** 1 to recede, as the tide 2 to

lessen; decline

eb·on·y (eb'ə nē) *n.*, *pl.* -ies [*<* Gr *ebēnos*] the hard, heavy, dark wood of certain tropical trees —*adj.* 1 of ebony 2 like ebony; specif., dark or black

e·bul·lient (i bool'yənt, -bul'-) *adj.* [*<* L *e-*, out + *bullire*, to boil] 1 bubbling; boiling 2 enthusiastic; exuberant —*e·bul'lience n.*

EC European Community

ec·cen·tric (ək sen'trik) *adj.* [*<* Gr *ek-*, out of + *kentron*, center] 1 not concentric: said of two circles, one inside the other 2 with its axis off center [an *eccentric* wheel] 3 not exactly circular 4 odd, as in conduct; unconventional —*n.* 1 a disk set off center on a shaft, for converting circular motion into back-and-forth motion 2 an eccentric person —*ec·cen'tri·cal·ly adv.* —*ec·cen·tric·i·ty* (ək'sen tris'ə tē), *pl.* -ties, *n.*

Ec·cle·si·as·tes (e klē'zē as'tēz') *n.* [*<* Gr *ek-*, out + *kalein*, to call] a book of the Old Testament

ec·cle'si·as'tic (-tik) *adj.* [see prec.] ECCLESIASTICAL —*n.* a member of the clergy

ec·cle'si·as'ti·cal (-ti kəl) *adj.* of the church or the clergy

ech·e·lon (esh'ə län') *n.* [*<* Fr *<* L *scala*, ladder] 1 a steplike formation of ships, troops, or aircraft 2 a subdivision of a military force 3 any of the levels of responsibility in an organization

e·chi·no·derm (ē kī'nō dər'm') *n.* [*<* ModL] a marine animal with a hard, spiny skeleton and radial body, as the starfish

ech·o (ek'ō) *n.*, *pl.* -oes [*<* Gr *ēchō*] 1 the repetition of a sound by reflection of sound waves from a surface 2 a sound so produced 3 any repetition or imitation of the words, ideas, etc. of another —*vi.* -oed, -o·ing 1 to reverberate 2 to make an echo —*vt.* to repeat (another's words, ideas, etc.)

e·cho·ic (e kō'ik) *adj.* imitative in sound, as the word *tinkle*

é·clair (ā kler', i-, ē-) *n.* [Fr, lit., lightning] an oblong pastry shell filled with custard, etc.

é·clat (ā klä', i-, ē-) *n.* [Fr *<* *éclater*, burst (out)] 1 brilliant success 2 striking effect 3 acclaim; fame

ec·lec·tic (ek lek'tik) *adj.* [*<* Gr *ek-*, out + *legein*, choose] selecting or selected from various sources —*n.* one who uses eclectic methods —*ec·lec'ti·cal·ly adv.* —*ec·lec'ti·cism'* (-tə siz'am) *n.*

e·clipse (i klips', ē-) *n.* [*<* Gr *ek-*, out + *leipein*, leave] 1 the obscuring of the sun when the moon comes between it and the earth (solar eclipse), or of the moon when the earth's shadow is cast upon it (lunar eclipse) 2 any obscuring of light, or of fame, glory, etc. —*vt.* *e·clipsed'*, *e·clips'ing* 1 to cause an eclipse of 2 to surpass

e·clip·tic (i klip'tik) *n.* the sun's apparent annual path, as seen from the orbiting earth

ec·logue (ek'lôg') *n.* [see ECLECTIC] a short pastoral poem

eco- [*<* Gr *oikos*, house] *combining form* 1 environment or habitat 2 ecology

ec·o·cide (ē'kō sīd') *n.* [prec. + -CIDE] the destruction of the environment, as by pollutants

e·col·o·gy (ē käl'ə jē) *n.* [*<* Gr *oikos*, house + *-logia*, -LOGY] the branch of biology that deals with the relations between living organisms and their environment —*ec'o·log'i·cal adj.* —*ec'o·log'i·cal·ly adv.* —*e·col'o·gist n.*

econ *abbrev.* economic(s)

ec·o·nom·ic (ek'ə nām'ik, ē'kə-) *adj.* 1 of the management of income, expenditures, etc. 2 of economics 3 of the satisfaction of the material needs of people

ec'o·nom'i·cal *adj.* 1 not wasting money, time, etc.; thrifty 2 that uses no more of something than is necessary —*ec'o·nom'i·cal·ly adv.*

ec'o·nom'ics *n.* 1 the science that deals with the production, distribution, and consumption of wealth 2 economic factors

e·con·o·mist (i kăn'ə mist, ē-) *n.* a specialist in economics

e·con'o·mize' (-mīz') *vi.* -mized', -miz'ing to reduce waste or expenses —*e·con'o·miz'er n.*

e·con'o·my (-mē) *n.*, *pl.* -mies [*<* Gr *oikos*, house + *nomos*, law] 1 the management of the income, expenditures, etc. of a household, government, etc. 2 careful management of wealth, etc.; thrift 3 efficient use of one's materials 4 an instance of thrift 5 a system of producing and distributing wealth —*adj.* costing less or less per unit than the standard kind

ec·o·sys·tem (ē'kō sis'təm) *n.* [*<* Gr *oikos*, house + SYSTEM] a community of animals and plants, together with its environment

ec·sta·sy (ek'stə sē) *n.*, *pl.* -sies [*<* Gr *ek-*, out + *histanai*, to set] a state or feeling of overpowering joy; rapture —*ec·stat·ic* (ek stat'ik) *adj.* —*ec·stat'i·cal·ly adv.*

-ec·to·my (ek'tə mē) [*<* Gr *ek-*, out + *temnein*, to cut] *combining form* a surgical excision of

Ec·ua·dor (ek'wə dôr') country on the NW coast of South America: 104,506 sq. mi.; pop. 9,648,000 —*Ec'ua·do're·an*, *Ec'ua·do'ri·an*, or *Ec'ua·dor'an adj.*, *n.*

ec·u·men·i·cal (ek'yōō men'i kəl) *adj.* [*<* Gr *oikoumenē* (gē), the inhabited (world)] 1 general, or universal; esp., of the Christian church as a whole 2 furthering religious unity, esp. among Christian churches —*ec'u·men'i·cal·ly adv.*

ec·u·men·ism (ek'yōō mə niz'am, e kyōō'-) *n.* the ecumenical movement, esp. among Christian churches —*ec'u·men·ist n.*

ec·ze·ma (ek'zə mə, eg'zə-) *n.* [*<* Gr *ek-*, out + *zein*, to boil] a skin disorder characterized by inflammation, itching, and scaliness

ed *abbrev.* 1 edited (by) 2 a) edition b) editor c) education

-ed [OE] *suffix* 1 forming the past tense or past participle of certain verbs 2 forming adjectives from nouns or verbs

[cultured, bearded]

E·dam (cheese) (ē'dəm, -dam') [after *Edam*, Netherlands] a mild, yellow cheese

ed·dy (ed'ē) *n.*, *pl.* -dies [prob. < ON *itha*] a little whirlpool or whirlwind — *vi.* -died, -dy·ing to move in an eddy

e·del·weiss (ā'dəl vīs') *n.* [Ger < *edel*, noble + *weiss*, white] a small, flowering plant, esp. of the Alps, with white and woolly leaves

e·de·ma (ē dē'mə) *n.*, *pl.* -mas or -ma·ta (-mə tə) [< Gr *oidēma*, swelling] an abnormal accumulation of fluid in body tissues or cavities

E·den (ēd'n) *n.* 1 *Bible* the garden where Adam and Eve first lived; Paradise 2 any delightful place — **E·den'ic** or **e·den·ic** (ē den'ik) *adj.*

edge (ej) *n.* [OE *ecg*] 1 the sharp, cutting part of a blade 2 sharpness; keenness 3 the projecting ledge of a cliff, etc.; brink 4 the part farthest from the middle; border; margin 5 [Inf.] advantage [he has the *edge* on me] — *vt.*, *vi.* **edged**, **edg'ing** 1 to form an edge (on) 2 to make (one's way) sideways 3 to move gradually — **on edge** 1 very tense; irritable 2 impatient — **edg'er** *n.*

edge'ways' (-wāz') *adv.* with the edge foremost: also **edge'wise'** (-wīz')

edg'ing *n.* a fringe, trimming, etc. for a border

edg·y (ej'ē) *adj.* -i·er, -i·est 1 irritable; on edge 2 [Inf.] innovative, daring, etc. — **edg'i·ness** *n.*

ed·i·ble (ed'ə bəl) *adj.* [< L *edere*, eat] fit to be eaten — *n.* anything fit to be eaten: usually used in *pl.* — **ed'i·bil'i·ty** (-bil'ə tē) *n.*

e·dict (ē'dikt') *n.* [< L *e-*, out + *dicere*, speak] a public order; decree

ed·i·fice (ed'i fis) *n.* [see *fol.*] a building, esp. a large, imposing one

ed·i·fy (ed'i fi') *vt.* -fied', -fy'ing [< L *aedificare*, build] to instruct so as to improve or uplift morally — **ed'i·fi·ca'tion** *n.* — **ed'i·fi'er** *n.*

Ed·in·burgh (ed'n bur'ə, -ō) capital of Scotland: district pop. 419,000

Ed·i·son (ed'i sən), **Thom·as Alva** (tām' əs əl'və) 1847-1931; U.S. inventor

ed·it¹ (ed'it) *vt.* [< *EDITOR*] 1 to prepare (a manuscript) for publication by arranging, revising, etc. 2 to control the policy and publication of (a newspaper, etc.) 3 to prepare (a film, tape, etc.) for presentation by cutting, dubbing, etc. 4 to make changes in (a computer file)

edit² *abbrev.* 1 edited (by) 2 edition 3 editor

e·di·tion (i dish'an) *n.* [see *fol.*] 1 the size or form in which a book is published 2 the total number of copies of a book, etc. published at one time 3 any particular issue of a newspaper

ed·i·tor (ed'it ə) *n.* [L < *e-*, out + *dare*, give] 1 one that edits 2 a department head of a newspaper, etc.

ed·i·to·ri·al (ed'i tōr'ē əl) *adj.* of or by an editor — *n.* a statement of opinion in a

newspaper, etc., as by an editor, publisher, or owner — **ed'i·to·ri·al·ly** *adv.*

ed'i·to·ri·al·ize' (-īz') *vi.* -ized', -iz'ing to express editorial opinions

editor in chief *pl.* editors in chief the editor who heads the editorial staff of a publication

Ed·mon·ton (ed'mən tən) capital of Alberta, Canada: pop. 616,000

educ *abbrev.* 1 education 2 educational

ed·u·ca·ble (ej'oo kə bəl, ej'ə-) *adj.* that can be educated or trained — **ed'u·ca·bil'i·ty** *n.*

ed'u·cate' (-kāt') *vt.* -cat'ed, -cat'ing [< L *e-*, out + *ducere*, to lead] 1 to develop the knowledge, skill, or character of, esp. by formal schooling; teach 2 to pay for the schooling of — **ed'u·ca'tor** *n.*

ed'u·cat'ed *adj.* 1 having much education 2 based on experience

ed'u·ca'tion (-kā'shən) *n.* 1 the process of educating; teaching 2 knowledge, etc. thus developed 3 formal schooling — **ed'u·ca'tion·al** *adj.*

e·duce (ē dōs') *vt.* e·duced', e·duc'ing [see *EDUCATE*] 1 to draw out; elicit 2 to deduce

-ee (ē) [< Anglo-Fr *pp.* ending] *suffix* 1 the recipient of a (specified) action [*appointee*] 2 one in a (specified) condition [*absentee*]

EEG *abbrev.* electroencephalogram



EEL

eel (ēl) *n.* [OE *æll*] a long, slippery, snakelike fish

EEOC *abbrev.* Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

e'er (er, ar) *adv.* [Old Poet.] EVER

-eer (ir) [< L *-arius*] *suffix* 1 *a*) one having to do with [*auctioneer*] *b*) one who writes, makes, etc. [*profiteer*] 2 to have to do with [*electioneer*]

ee·rie or **ee·ry** (ir'ē) *adj.* -ri·er, -ri·est [< OE *earg*, timid] mysterious, uncanny, or weird — **ee'ri·ly** *adv.* — **ee'ri·ness** *n.*

ef- *prefix* EX-: used before *f* [*efface*]

ef·face (ə fās', i-) *vt.* -faced', -fac'ing [< L *ex-*, out + *facies*, face] 1 to rub out; erase 2 to make (oneself) inconspicuous — **ef·face'ment** *n.*

ef·fect (e fekt', i-) *n.* [< L *ex-*, out + *facere*, do] 1 anything brought about by a cause; result 2 the power to cause results 3 influence 4 meaning [*spoke to this effect*] 5 an impression made on the mind, or its cause 6 a being operative or in force 7 [*pl.*] belongings; property — *vt.* to bring about; accomplish — **in effect** 1 actually 2 virtually 3 in operation — **take effect** to become operative

ef·fec'tive *adj.* 1 producing a desired effect; efficient 2 in effect; operative 3 impressive — **ef·fec'tive·ly** *adv.* — **ef-**

fec'tive·ness *n.*

ef·fec·tu·al (e fek'chō əl, i-) *adj.* 1 producing, or able to produce, the desired effect 2 having legal force; valid —**ef·fec'tu·al·ly** *adv.*

ef·fec'tu·ate' (-āt') *vt.* -at'ed, -at'ing to bring about; effect

ef·fem·i·nate (e fem'ə nit, i-) *adj.* [**< L** *ex-*, out + *femina*, woman] having qualities attributed to women, as weakness, delicacy, etc.; unmanly —**ef·fem'i·na·cy** *n.*

ef·fer·ent (ef'ər ənt) *adj.* [**< L** *ex-*, out + *ferre*, to bear] carrying away from a central part, as nerves

ef·fer·vesce (ef'ər ves') *vi.* -vesced', -vesc'ing [**< L** *ex-*, out + *fervere*, to boil] 1 to give off gas bubbles; bubble 2 to be lively —**ef·fer·ves'cence** *n.* —**ef·fer·ves'cent** *adj.*

ef·fete (e fēt', i-) *adj.* [**< L** *ex-*, out + *fetus*, productive] 1 no longer able to produce; sterile 2 decadent, soft, too refined, etc. —**ef·fete'ly** *adv.* —**ef·fete'ness** *n.*

ef·fi·ca·cious (ef'i kā'shəs) *adj.* [see EFFECT] that produces the desired effect —**ef·fi·ca'cious·ly** *adv.* —**ef·fi·ca·cy** (-kə sē) *n.*

ef·fi'cien·cy *n.* 1 a being efficient 2 a small, usually one-room, apartment: in full efficiency apartment

ef·fi·cient (e fish'ənt, i-) *adj.* [see EFFECT] producing the desired result with a minimum of effort, expense, or waste —**ef·fi'cient·ly** *adv.*

ef·fi·gy (ef'i jē) *n., pl. -gies* [**< L** *ex-*, out + *ingere*, to form] a statue or other image; often, a crude representation of a despised person that is hanged or burned to show protest

ef·flu·ent (ef'lō ənt) *adj.* [**< L** *effluere*, flow out] flowing out —*n.* the outflow of a sewer, septic tank, etc. —**ef'flu·ence** *n.*

ef·flu·vi·um (e flō'vē əm) *n., pl. -vi·a* (-ə) or *-vi·ums* [see prec.] a disagreeable vapor or odor

ef·fort (ef'ərt) *n.* [**< L** *ex-*, intens. + *fortis*, strong] 1 the use of energy to do something 2 a try; attempt 3 a result of working or trying —**ef'fort·less** *adj.* —**ef'fort·less·ly** *adv.*

ef·fron·ter·y (e frunt'ər ē, i-) *n.* [**< L** *ex-*, from + *frons*, forehead] impudence; audacity

ef·ful·gence (e ful'jəns, i-) *n.* [**< L** *ex-*, forth + *fulgere*, shine] radiance; brilliance —**ef·ful'gent** *adj.*

ef·fuse (e fyōōz', i-) *vt., vi.* -fused', -fus'ing [**< L** *ex-*, out + *fundere*, pour] 1 to pour out or forth 2 to spread out; diffuse

ef·fu'sion (-fyōō'zhən) *n.* 1 a pouring forth 2 unrestrained expression in speaking or writing —**ef·fu'sive** *adj.* —**ef·fu'sive·ly** *adv.* —**ef·fu'sive·ness** *n.*

e.g. *abbrev.* [**L** *exempli gratia*] for example

e·gad (ē gad') *interj.* [prob. **< oh God**] [Archaic] used as a softened oath

e·gal·i·tar·i·an (ē gal'ə ter'ē ən) *adj.* [**< Fr** *égalité*, equality] advocating full political, social, and economic equality

for all people —*n.* a person advocating this

egg¹ (eg) *n.* [ON] 1 the oval or round body laid by a female bird, fish, etc., containing the germ of a new individual 2 a reproductive cell produced by a female; ovum 3 a hen's egg, raw or cooked

egg² (eg) *vt.* [**< ON** *eggja*, give edge to] to urge or incite: with *on*

egg'beat'er *n.* a kitchen utensil for beating eggs, whipping cream, etc.

egg foo yong (or **young** or **yung**) (eg'fō yun') a Chinese-American dish of beaten eggs cooked with bean sprouts, onions, minced pork or shrimp, etc.

egg'head' *n.* [Slang] an intellectual

egg'nog' (-näg') *n.* [EGG¹ + *nog*, strong ale] a drink made of beaten eggs, milk, sugar, nutmeg, and, often, whiskey or rum

egg'plant' *n.* 1 a plant with a large, ovoid, purple-skinned fruit eaten as a vegetable 2 the fruit

egg roll a Chinese-American dish, a thin egg pancake wrapped around minced vegetables, meat, etc. and deep-fried

eg·lan·tine (eg'lən tīn', -tēn') *n.* [**< L** *aculeus*, a sting] a European rose with sweet-scented leaves and pink flowers

e·go (ē'gō) *n., pl. -gos* [L, I²] 1 the self; the individual as self-aware 2 egotism 3 *Psychoanalysis* the part of the psyche that organizes thoughts rationally and governs action

e'go·cen'tric (-sen'trik) *adj.* viewing everything in relation to oneself —**e'go·cen'tri·cal·ly** *adv.* —**e'go·cen'trism'** *n.*

e'go·ism' *n.* 1 selfishness; self-interest 2 egotism; conceit —**e'go·ist** *n.* —**e'go·is'tic** or **e'go·is'ti·cal** *adj.*

e'go·tism' *n.* 1 excessive reference to oneself in speaking or writing 2 conceit; vanity —**e'go·tist** *n.* —**e'go·tis'tic** or **e'go·tis'ti·cal** *adj.* —**e'go·tis'ti·cal·ly** *adv.*

ego trip [Slang] an experience that gratifies or indulges the ego

e·gre·gious (ē grē'jəs, i-) *adj.* [**< L** *e-*, out + *grex*, a herd] remarkably bad; flagrant [an *egregious* error] —**e·gre'gious·ly** *adv.* —**e·gre'gious·ness** *n.*

e·gress (ē'gres') *n.* [**< L** *e-*, out + *gradi*, go] a way out; exit

e·gret (ē'gret', -grit) *n.* [**< OFr** *aigrette*] 1 a kind of heron with long, white plumes 2 AIGRETTE

E·gypt (ē'jipt) country in NE Africa, on the Mediterranean: 386,662 sq. mi.; pop. 48,205,000

E·gyp·tian (ē jip'shən, i-) *n.* 1 the language of the ancient Egyptians 2 a person born or living in Egypt —*adj.* of Egypt or its people, language, etc.

eh (ā, e) *interj.* 1 used to express doubt or surprise 2 used to make an inquiry

ei·der (ī'dər) *n.* [ult. **< ON** *æthr*] 1 a large sea duck of northern regions 2 EIDERDOWN

ei'der·down' *n.* the fine, soft down of the eider, used as a stuffing for quilts,

pillows, etc.

eight (āt) *adj.*, *n.* [**<** OE *eahta*] one more than seven; 8; VIII —**eighth** (ātth) *adj.*, *n.*

eight ball a black ball with the number eight on it, used in playing pool — **behind the eight ball** [Slang] in a very unfavorable position

eight·een (ā'tēn') *adj.*, *n.* eight more than ten; 18; XVIII —**eight'eenth'** *adj.*, *n.*

eight'y *adj.*, *n.*, *pl.* -ies eight times ten; 80; LXXX —**the eighties** the numbers or years, as of a century, from 80 through 89 —**eight'i-eth** *adj.*, *n.*

Ein·stein (in'stīn'), **Al·bert** (al'bərt) 1879-1955; U.S. physicist, born in Germany: formulated theory of relativity

Eir·e (er'ə) *Ir. name for IRELAND*

Ei·sen·how·er (ī'zen hou'ər), **Dwight David** (dwīt) 1890-1969; U.S. general & 34th president of the U.S. (1953-61)

ei·ther (ē'thər, ī'-) *adj.* [OE *æghwæther*] 1 one or the other (of two) 2 each (of two) —*pron.* one or the other (of two) —*conj.* a correlative used with *or* to imply a choice of alternatives [*either go or stay*] —*adv.* any more than the other; also [*if you don't go, I won't either*]

e·jac·u·late (ē jak'yōō lāt', i-) *vt.*, *vi.* -lat'ed, -lat'ing [see fol.] 1 to eject (esp. semen) 2 to utter suddenly; exclaim — **e·jac'u·la'tion** *n.*

e·ject (ē jekt', i-) *vt.* [**<** L *e-*, out + *jacere*, to throw] to throw or force out; expel — **e·jec'tion** *n.*

eke (ēk) *vt.* eked, ek'ing [**<** OE *eacan*, to increase] to manage to make (a living) with difficulty: with *out*

EKG *abbrev.* electrocardiogram

e·lab·o·rate (ē lab'ə rit, i-; *for v.*, -rāt') *adj.* [**<** L *e-*, out + *labor*, work] developed in great detail; complicated —*vt.* -rat'ed, -rat'ing to work out in great detail —*vi.* to add more details: usually with *on* or *upon* —**e·lab'o·rate·ly** *adv.* —**e·lab'o·rate·ness** *n.* —**e·lab'o·ra'tion** *n.*

é·lan (ā lān', -lān') *n.* [Fr **<** *élancer*, to dart] spirited self-assurance; dash

e·lapse (ē laps', i-) *vi.* e·lapsed', e·laps'ing [**<** L *e-*, out + *labi*, to glide] to slip by; pass: said of time

e·las·tic (ē las'tik, i-) *adj.* [**<** Gr *elau·nein*, set in motion] 1 able to spring back to its original size, shape, etc. after being stretched, squeezed, etc.; flexible 2 able to recover easily, as from dejection; buoyant 3 adaptable — *n.* an elastic band or fabric —**e'las·tic'i·ty** (-tis'ə tē) *n.*

e·las'ti·cize' (-tə sīz') *vt.* -cized', -ciz'ing to make (fabric) elastic

e·late (ē lāt', i-) *vt.* -lat'ed, -lat'ing [**<** L *ex-*, out + *ferre*, to bear] to raise the spirits of; make very proud, happy, etc. —**e·la'tion** *n.*

el·bow (el'bō') *n.* [see ELL² & BOW²] 1 the joint between the upper and lower arm; esp., the outer angle made by a bent arm 2 anything bent like an elbow —*vt.*, *vi.* to shove as with the elbows

elbow grease [Inf.] vigorous physical effort

el'bow·room' *n.* ample space or room

eld·er¹ (el'dər) *adj.* [**<** OE *eald*, old] older —*n.* 1 an older or aged person 2 an older person with some authority, as in a tribe 3 any of certain church officers

el·der² (el'dər) *n.* [OE *ellern*] a shrub or tree of the honeysuckle family, with red or purple berries

el'der·ber'ry (-ber'ē) *n.*, *pl.* -ries 1 ELDER² 2 its berry, used for making wine, jelly, etc.

eld'er·ly *adj.* 1 somewhat old 2 in old age; aged

eld·est (el'dist) *adj.* oldest; esp., first-born

El Do·ra·do or **El·do·ra·do** (el'də rā'dō) *n.*, *pl.* -dos [Sp, the gilded] any place supposed to be rich in gold, opportunity, etc.

e·lect (ē lekt', i-) *adj.* [**<** L *e-*, out + *legere*, choose] 1 chosen 2 elected but not yet installed in office: usually used in combination [*mayor-elect*] —*vt.*, *vi.* 1 to select for an office by voting 2 to choose; select —**e·lect'a·ble** *adj.* —**e·lect'a·bil'i·ty** *n.*

e·lec·tion (ē lek'shən, i-) *n.* 1 a choosing or choice 2 a choosing or being chosen by vote

e·lec'tion·eer' *vi.* to canvass votes in an election

e·lec'tive (-tiv) *adj.* 1 *a*) filled by election [*an elective office*] *b*) chosen by election 2 having the power to choose 3 optional —*n.* an optional course or subject in a school curriculum

e·lec'tor (-tər) *n.* 1 one who elects; specif., a qualified voter 2 a member of the electoral college —**e·lec'tor·al** *adj.*

electoral college an assembly elected by the voters to perform the formal duty of electing the president and vice president of the U.S.

e·lec'tor·ate (-it) *n.* all those qualified to vote in an election

E·lec·tra (ē lek'trə, i-) *n.* Gr. Myth. a daughter of Agamemnon: she plots the death of her mother

e·lec·tric (ē lek'trik, i-) *adj.* [**<** Gr *ēlek·tron*, amber: from the effect of friction upon amber] 1 of, charged with, or conducting electricity 2 producing, or produced by, electricity 3 operated by electricity 4 using electronic amplification [*an electric guitar*] 5 very tense or exciting Also **e·lec'tri·cal** —**e·lec'tri·cal·ly** *adv.*

electric chair a chair equipped for use in electrocuting persons sentenced to death

e·lec·tri·cian (ē'lek trish'ən, ē lek'-) *n.* one whose work is the construction and repair of electric apparatus

e'lec·tric'i·ty (-tris'i tē) *n.* 1 a property of certain fundamental particles of all matter, as electrons (negative charges) and protons or positrons (positive charges): electrical charge is generated by friction, induction, or chemical change 2 an electric current 3 electric current as a public utility for lighting,

heating, etc.

e-lec-tri-fy (ē lek'trā fī', i-) *vt.* -fied', -fy'ing 1 to charge with electricity 2 to excite; thrill 3 to equip for the use of electricity —**e-lec'tri-fi-ca'tion** *n.* —**e-lec'tri-fi'er** *n.*

electro- combining form electric, electricity

e-lec-tro-car-di-o-gram (ē lek'trō kār' dē a gram', i-) *n.* a tracing showing the variations in electric force which trigger heart contractions

e-lec'tro-car'di-o-graph' (-graf') *n.* an instrument for making electrocardiograms

e-lec'tro-cute' (-trā kyōōt') *vt.* -cut'ed, -cut'ing [ELECTRO- + (EXE)CUTE] to kill or execute with electricity —**e-lec'tro-cu'tion** *n.*

e-lec'trode' (-trōd') *n.* [ELECTR(O)- + -ODE] any terminal by which electricity enters or leaves a battery, etc.

e-lec'tro-en-ceph'a-lo-gram' (-trō en sef'ə lō gram') *n.* [see ENCEPHALITIS & -GRAM] a tracing of the variations in electric force in the brain

e-lec'tro-en-ceph'a-lo-graph' (-graf') *n.* an instrument for making electroencephalograms

e-lec'trol'y-sis (-i sis) *n.* [ELECTRO- + -LYSIS] 1 the decomposition of an electrolyte by the action of an electric current passing through it 2 the eradication of unwanted hair with an electrified needle

e-lec-tro-lyte (ē lek'trō lit', i-) *n.* [ELECTRO- + -LYTE] any chemical compound that ionizes when molten or in solution and becomes capable of conducting electricity —**e-lec'tro-lyt'ic** (-lit'ik) *adj.*

e-lec'tro-mag'net (-mag'nit) *n.* a soft iron core that becomes a magnet when an electric current flows through a surrounding coil —**e-lec'tro-mag-net'ic** (-net'ik) *adj.*

electromagnetic wave a wave generated by an oscillating electric charge

e-lec'tro-mo'tive (-mōt'iv) *adj.* producing an electric current through differences in potential

e-lec-tron (ē lek'trān', i-) *n.* [see ELECTRIC] a stable, negatively charged elementary particle that forms a part of all atoms

e-lec-tron-ic (ē'lek trān'ik) *adj.* 1 of electrons 2 operating, produced, or done by the action of electrons —**e-lec'tron'i-cal-ly** *adv.*

electronic mail E-MAIL

electronic music music in which the sounds are originated or altered by electronic devices

e-lec-tron'ics *n.* the science dealing with the action of electrons, and with the use of electron tubes, transistors, etc.

electron microscope a device that focuses a beam of electrons on a fluorescent screen, etc. to form a greatly enlarged image of an object

electron tube a sealed glass tube with gas or a vacuum inside, used to control the flow of electrons

e-lec-tro-plate (ē lek'trō plāt', i-) *vt.*

-plat'ed, -plat'ing to deposit a coating of metal on by electrolysis

e-lec'tro-scope' (-skōp') *n.* a device for detecting very small charges of electricity or radiation —**e-lec'tro-scop'ic** (-skāp'ik) *adj.*

e-lec'tro-shock' therapy a form of SHOCK THERAPY using electricity

e-lec'tro-type' *n.* *Printing* a plate made by electroplating a wax or plastic impression of the surface to be reproduced

el-ee-mos-y-nar-y (el'i mäs'ə ner'ē, el'ē ə-) *adj.* [*< Gr eleēmosynē, pity*] of, for, or supported by charity

el-e-gant (el'ə gənt) *adj.* [*< L e-, out + legere, choose*] 1 having dignified richness and grace, as of manner, design, or dress; tastefully luxurious 2 cleverly apt and simple [*an elegant solution*] 3 [*Inf.*] excellent —**el'e-gance** *n.* —**el'e-gant-ly** *adv.*

el-e-gi-ac (el ē'jē ak', el'ə jī'ak') *adj.* 1 of, like, or fit for an elegy 2 sad; mournful

el-e-gy (el'ə jē) *n., pl. -gies* [*< Gr elegos, a lament*] a mournful poem, esp. of lament and praise for the dead

el-e-ment (el'ə mənt) *n.* [*< L elementum*] 1 the natural or suitable environment for a person or thing 2 a component part or quality, often one that is basic or essential 3 *Chem.* any substance that cannot be separated into different substances by ordinary chemical methods, but only by radioactive decay or by nuclear reactions: all matter is composed of such substances — **the elements** 1 the first principles; rudiments 2 wind, rain, etc.; forces of the atmosphere

el-e-men-tal (el'ə ment'l) *adj.* 1 of or like basic, natural forces; primal 2 ELEMENTARY (sense 2a) 3 being an essential part or parts

el'e-men'ta-ry (-ə rē) *adj.* 1 ELEMENTAL 2 a) of first principles or fundamentals; basic; simple b) of the formal instruction of children in basic subjects

elementary particle a subatomic particle that cannot be divided

elementary school a school of the first six (sometimes eight) grades, where basic subjects are taught

el-e-phant (el'ə fənt) *n.* [*< Gr elephas*] a huge, thick-skinned mammal with a long, flexible snout, or trunk, and, usually, two ivory tusks

el-e-phan-ti-a-sis (el'ə fən tī'ə sis) *n.* a chronic disease causing the enlargement of certain body parts and hardening of the surrounding skin

el-e-phan-tine (el'ə fan'tēn') *adj.* like an elephant; huge, clumsy, etc.

el-e-vate (el'ə vāt') *vt.* -vat'ed, -vat'ing [*< L e-, out + levare, to lift*] 1 to lift up; raise 2 to raise in rank 3 to raise to a higher intellectual or moral level 4 to elate; exhilarate

el'e-va'tion (-vā'shən) *n.* 1 an elevating or being elevated 2 a high place or position 3 height above the surface of the earth or above sea level

el'e-va'tor (-vāt'ər) *n.* 1 one that elevates, or lifts up 2 a suspended cage for hoisting or lowering people or things 3 a tall warehouse for storing and discharging grain: in full **grain elevator**

e·lev·en (ē lev'ən, i-) *adj., n.* [OE *endleofan*] one more than ten; 11; XI —**e·lev'enth** (-ənth) *adj., n.*

elf (elf) *n., pl. elves* (elvz) [OE *ælf*] *Folklore* a tiny, often mischievous fairy — **elf'in** or **elf'ish** *adj.*

El Gre·co (el grek'ō) 1541?-1614?; painter in Italy & Spain, born in Crete

e·lic·it (ē lis'it, i-) *vt.* [< L *e-*, out + *lacere*, entice] to draw forth; evoke (a response, etc.) — **e·lic'i·ta'tion** *n.*

e·lide (ē lid', i-) *vt.* **e·lid'ed**, **e·lid'ing** [< L *e-*, out + *laedere*, to hurt] to leave out; esp., to slur over (a vowel, etc.) in pronunciation — **e·li'sion** (-lizh'ən) *n.*

el·i·gi·ble (el'i jə bəl) *adj.* [see **ELECT**] fit to be chosen; qualified — **el'i·gi·bil'i·ty** *n.*

E·li·jah (ē lī'jə, i-) *n.* *Bible* a prophet of Israel in the 9th c. B.C.

e·lim·i·nate (ē lim'ə nāt', i-) *vt.* -**nat'ed**, -**nat'ing** [< L *e-*, out + *limen*, threshold] 1 to remove; get rid of 2 to leave out of consideration; omit 3 to excrete — **e·lim'i·na'tion** *n.*

El·i·ot (el'ē ət) 1 **George** (pseud. of *Mary Ann Evans*) 1819-80; Eng. novelist 2 **T(homas) S(tearns)** 1885-1965; Brit. poet, born in the U.S.

e·lite (i lēt', ā-) *n.* [Fr < L: see **ELECT**] [*also with pl. v.*] the group or part of a group regarded as the best, most powerful, etc.

e·lit'ism' *n.* government or control by an elite — **e·lit'ist** *adj., n.*

e·lix·ir (i līks'ir) *n.* [< Ar *al-iksīr*] 1 a hypothetical substance sought by medieval alchemists to change base metals into gold or (in full **elixir of life**) to prolong life indefinitely 2 *Pharmacy* a sweetened solution used for medicines, etc.

E·liz·a·beth (ē liz'ə bəth, i-) 1 **Elizabeth I** 1533-1603; queen of England (1558-1603) 2 **Elizabeth II** 1926-; queen of Great Britain & Northern Ireland (1952-)

E·liz·a·be·than (ē liz'ə bē'thən) *adj.* of or characteristic of the time of Elizabeth I's reign — *n.* an English person, esp. a writer, of that time

elk (elk) *n.* [< OE *eolh*] 1 **MOOSE**: the common term in Europe 2 **WAPITI**

ell¹ (el) *n.* 1 an extension or wing at right angles to the main structure 2 an L-shaped pipe, etc.

ell² (el) *n.* [< OE *eln*] a former English unit of measure, equal to 45 inches

el·lipse (e lips', i-) *n., pl. -lip'ses'* (-sēz') [< Gr *elleipein*, fall short] *Geom.* a closed curve in the form of a symmetrical oval

el·lip'sis (-lip'sis) *n., pl. -ses'* (-sēz') [see **prec.**] 1 *Gram.* the omission of a word or words understood in the context (Ex.: "if possible" for "if it is possible") 2 a mark (. . .) indicating an omission of words: in full **ellipsis points**

el·lip'ti·cal (-ti kəl) *adj.* 1 of, or having the form of, an ellipse 2 of or characterized by ellipsis Also **el·lip'tic** — **el·lip'ti·cal·ly** *adv.*

elm (elm) *n.* [OE] 1 a tall, deciduous shade tree 2 its hard, heavy wood

El Ni·ño (el nēn'yō) a warm inshore current annually flowing south along the coast of Ecuador

e·o·cu·tion (el'ə kyōō'shən) *n.* [see **ELOQUENT**] the art of public speaking — **e·o·cu'tion·ary** *adj.* — **e·o·cu'tion·ist** *n.*

e·lo·de·a (ē lō'dē ə, el'ə dē'ə) *n.* [< Gr *helōdēs*, swampy] a submerged water plant with whorls of short, grasslike leaves

e·lon·gate (ē lôn'gāt', i-) *vt., vi.* -**gat'ed**, -**gat'ing** [< L *e-*, out + *longus*, long] to make or become longer; stretch — **e·lon·ga'tion** *n.*

e·lope (ē lōp', i-) *vi.* **e·loped'**, **e·lop'ing** [prob. < OE *a-*, away + *hleapan*, to run] to run away secretly, esp. in order to get married — **e·lope'ment** *n.*

e·o·quent (el'ə kwənt) *adj.* [< L *e-*, out + *loqui*, speak] vivid, forceful, fluent, etc. in speech or writing — **e·o·quence** *n.* — **e·o·quent·ly** *adv.*

El Pas·o (el pas'ō) city in westernmost Texas: pop. 515,000

El Sal·va·dor (el sal'və dōr') country in Central America, on the Pacific: 8,124 sq. mi.; pop. 5,048,000

else (els) *adj.* [OE *elles*] 1 different; other [somebody *else*] 2 in addition [is there anything *else*?] — *adv.* 1 differently; otherwise [where *else* can I go?] 2 if not [study, (or) *else* you will fail]

else'where' *adv.* in or to some other place; somewhere else

e·lu·ci·date (ə lōō'sə dāt') *vt., vi.* -**dat'ed**, -**dat'ing** [< L *e-*, out + *lucidus*, clear] to make (something) clear; explain — **e·lu'ci·da'tion** *n.*

e·lude (ē lōōd', i-) *vt.* **e·lud'ed**, **e·lud'ing** [< L *e-*, out + *ludere*, to play] 1 to avoid or escape from by quickness, cunning, etc.; evade 2 to escape the mental grasp of [his name *eludes* me]

e·lu'sive (-lōō'siv) *adj.* tending to elude; evasive — **e·lu'sive·ly** *adv.* — **e·lu'sive·ness** *n.*

elves (elvz) *n. pl. of ELF*

E·ly·si·um (ē lizh'əm, -liz'ē əm; i-) *n.* 1 *Gr. Myth.* the dwelling place of virtuous people after death 2 any state of ideal bliss; paradise — **E·ly'si·an** (-lizh'ən, -liz'ē ən) *adj.*

em (em) *n.* [< the letter *M*] *Printing* a unit of measure; as of column width

'em (əm) *pron.* [Inf.] them

em- *prefix* EN-: used before *b*, *m*, or *p*

e·ma·ci·ate (ē mā'shē āt', -sē-; i-) *vt.* -**at'ed**, -**at'ing** [< L *e-*, out + *macies*, leanness] to cause to become abnormally lean — **e·ma'ci·a'tion** *n.*

e·mail (ē'māl') *n.* [*also E-*] messages sent from one computer terminal to another, as by telephone line

em·a·nate (em'ə nāt') *vi.* -**nat'ed**, -**nat'ing** [< L *e-*, out + *manare*, to flow] to come forth; issue, as from a source — **em'a·na'tion** *n.*

e·man·ci·pate (ē man'sə pāt', i-) *vt.*

-pat'ed, -pat'ing [**< L** *e-*, out + *manus*, the hand + *capere*, to take] 1 to set free (a slave, etc.) 2 to free from restraint —**e-man'ci-pa'tion** *n.* —**e-man'ci-pa'tor** *n.*

e-mas-cu-late (ē mas'kyōō lāt') **vt.** **-lat'ed, -lat'ing** [**< L** *e-*, out + *masculus*, male] 1 to castrate 2 to weaken —**e-mas'cu-la'tion** *n.*

em-balm (em bām', im-) **vt.** [see **EN-** & **BALM**] to preserve (a dead body) with various chemicals —**em-balm'er** *n.*

em-bank (em bank', im-) **vt.** to protect, support, or enclose with a bank of earth, etc. —**em-bank'ment** *n.*

em-bar-go (em bār'gō, im-) *n., pl. -goes* [Sp **< L** *in-*, in + **ML** *barra*, a bar] 1 a government order prohibiting the entry or departure of commercial ships at its ports 2 any legal restriction of commerce —**vt. -goed, -go-ing** to put an embargo upon

em-bark (em bār'k, im-) **vt.** [ult. **< L** *in-*, in + *barca*, small boat] to put or take (passengers or goods) aboard a ship, aircraft, etc. —**vi.** 1 to go aboard a ship, aircraft, etc. 2 to begin; start —**em-bar-ka'tion** (-bār kā'shən) *n.*

em-bar-rass (em bar'əs, im-) **vt.** [**< It** *in-*, in + **ML** *barra*, a bar] 1 to cause to feel self-conscious 2 to hinder 3 to cause to be in debt —**em-bar'rass-ing** *adj.* —**em-bar'rass-ment** *n.*

em-bas-sy (em'bə sē) *n., pl. -sies* [see **AMBASSADOR**] 1 the residence or offices of an ambassador 2 an ambassador and his or her staff 3 a group sent on an official mission

em-bat-tled (em bat'tld) *adj.* [**< OFr**] engaged in battle or conflict

em-bed (em bed', im-) **vt. -bed'ded, -bed'ding** to set or fix firmly in earth, in the mind or memory, etc. —**em-bed'ment** *n.*

em-bel-ish (em bel'ish, im-) **vt.** [**< OFr** *em-*, in + *bel*, beautiful] 1 to adorn 2 to improve (a story, etc.) by adding details, often fictitious —**em-bel'ish-ment** *n.*

em-ber (em'bər) *n.* [OE *æmerge*] 1 a glowing piece of coal, wood, etc. 2 [*pl.*] the smoldering remains of a fire

em-bez-zle (em bez'əl, im-) **vt. -zled, -zling** [**< OFr** *en-*, in + *besillier*, destroy] to steal (money, etc. entrusted to one) —**em-bez'zle-ment** *n.* —**em-bez'zler** *n.*

em-bit'ter (-bit'ər) **vt.** to make bitter —**em-bit'ter-ment** *n.*

em-bla'zon (-blā'zən) **vt.** [EM- (see **EN-**) + **BLAZON**] 1 to decorate (with coats of arms, etc.) 2 to display brilliantly 3 to extol —**em-bla'zon-ment** *n.*

em-blem (em'bləm) *n.* [**< Gr** *en-*, in + *ballein*, throw] a visible symbol of a thing, idea, etc.; sign; badge —**em-blem-at'ic** (-blə mat'ik) *adj.*

em-bod-y (em bād'ē, im-) **vt. -ied, -y-ing** 1 to give bodily form to 2 to give definite form to 3 to bring together into an organized whole; incorporate —**em-bod'i-ment** *n.*

em-bold'en (-bōl'dən) **vt.** to give courage to

em-bo-lism (em'bə liz'əm) *n.* [**< Gr** *en-*, in + *ballein*, to throw] the obstruction

of a blood vessel as by a blood clot or air bubble

em-boss (em bōs', -bās'; im-) **vt.** [see **EN-** & **BOSS**²] 1 to decorate with raised designs, patterns, etc. 2 to raise (a design, etc.) in relief —**em-boss'er** *n.*

em-bou-chure (äm'bōō shoor') *n.* [Fr **< L** *in*, in + *bucca*, cheek] the method of applying the lips and tongue to the mouthpiece of a wind instrument

em-brace (em brās', im-) **vt. -braced', -brac'ing** [**< L** *im-*, in + *brachium*, an arm] 1 to clasp in the arms lovingly; hug 2 to accept readily 3 to take up or adopt 4 to encircle 5 to include —**vi.** to clasp each other in the arms —*n.* an embracing; hug —**em-brace'a-ble** *adj.*

em-bra-sure (em brā'zhər, im-) *n.* [Fr **< obs.** *embraser*, widen an opening] 1 an opening (for a door, window, etc.) wider on the inside than on the outside 2 an opening in a wall or parapet for a gun, with the sides slanting outward

em-broi-der (em broi'dər, im-) **vt., vi.** [**< OFr** *en-*, on + *broder*, embroider] 1 to make (a design, etc.) on (fabric) with needlework 2 to embellish (a story); exaggerate

em-broi'der-y *n., pl. -ies* 1 the art of embroidering 2 embroidered work or fabric 3 embellishment

em-broil (em broil', im-) **vt.** [**< OFr** *en-*, in + *brouillier*, to dirty] 1 to confuse; muddle 2 to involve in conflict or trouble —**em-broil'ment** *n.*

em-bryo (em'brē ō') *n., pl. -os'* [**< Gr** *en-*, in + *bryein*, to swell] 1 an animal in the earliest stages of its development in the uterus or egg 2 the rudimentary plant contained in a seed 3 an early stage of something —**em'bry-on'ic** (-än'ik) *adj.*

em'bry-ol'o-gy (-äl'ə jē) *n.* [prec. + **-LOGY**] the branch of biology dealing with the formation and development of embryos —**em'bry-ol'o-gist** *n.*

em-cee (em'sē') *vi., vt. -ceed', -cee'ing* [**< MC**, sense 1] [Inf.] to act as master of ceremonies (for) —*n.* [Inf.] a master of ceremonies

e-mend (ē miend', i-) **vt.** [**< L** *emendare*, to correct] to make scholarly corrections in (a text) —**e-men-da'tion** (ē'men dā'shən, em'ən-) *n.*

em-er-ald (em'ər əld) *n.* [**< Gr** *smaragdos*] 1 a transparent, bright-green precious stone 2 bright green

e-merge (ē murj', i-) *vi. e-merged', e-merg'ing* [**< L** *e-*, out + *mergere*, to dip] 1 to rise as from a fluid 2 to become visible or apparent 3 to evolve —**e-mer'gence** *n.* —**e-mer'gent** *adj.*

e-mer-gen-cy (ē mur'jən sē, i-) *n., pl. -cies* [orig. sense, emergence] a sudden, generally unexpected occurrence demanding immediate action —*adj.* for use in an emergency

emergency room a hospital unit for accident victims and others needing immediate treatment

e-mer-i-tus (ē mer'i təs, i-) *adj.* [**< L** *e-*, out + *mereri*, to serve] retired from active service, usually for age, but

retaining one's title [*professor emeritus*]

Em·er·son (em'ər sən), Ralph Wal·do (ralf wōl'dō) 1803-82; U.S. writer & philosopher

em·er·y (em'ər ē) *n.* [*< Gr smyris*] a dark, coarse variety of corundum used for grinding, polishing, etc.

emery board a small, flat stick coated with powdered emery, used to shape the fingernails

e·met·ic (ē met'ik, i-) *adj.* [*< Gr emein, to vomit*] causing vomiting —*n.* an emetic substance

-e·mi·a (ē'mē ə) [*< Gr haima, blood*] combining form a (specified) condition of the blood [*leukemia*]

em·i·grate (em'i grāt') *vi.* -grat'ed, -grat'ing [*< L e-, out + migrare, to move*] to leave one country or region to settle in another —**em'i·grant** (-grānt) *adj., n.* —**em'i·gra'tion** *n.*

é·mi·gré or **e·mi·gré** (em'i grā') *n.* [*Fr*] 1 one who emigrates 2 one forced to flee his or her country for political reasons

em·i·nence (em'i nāns) *n.* [*< L eminere, stand out*] 1 a high place, thing, etc. 2 superiority in rank, position, etc. 3 [*E-*] a title of a cardinal: preceded by *Your* or *His*

em'i·nent (-nənt) *adj.* [*< L eminens*] 1 high; lofty 2 projecting; prominent 3 renowned; distinguished 4 outstanding —**em'i·nent·ly** *adv.*

eminent domain the right of a government to take or purchase private property for public use, with just compensation to the owner

e·mir (e mir', ə-) *n.* [*< Ar amara, to command*] in Muslim countries, a ruler or prince

em·is·sar·y (em'i ser'ē) *n., pl. -ies* [*see EMIT*] a person or agent sent on a specific mission

e·mis·sion (ē mish'an, i-) *n.* 1 an emitting 2 something emitted; discharge

e·mit (ē mit', i-) *vt.* e·mit'ted, e·mit'ting [*< L e-, out + mittere, send*] 1 to send out; give forth; discharge 2 to utter (words, etc.) —**e·mit'ter** *n.*

e·mol·li·ent (ē māl'yənt, i-) *adj.* [*< L e-, out + mollire, soften*] softening; soothing —*n.* something that softens or soothes, as a preparation applied to the skin

e·mol'u·ment (-yōō mənt) *n.* [*< L e-, out + molere, to grind*] payment received for work; salary, fees, etc.

e·mote (ē mōt', i-) *vi.* e·mot'ed, e·mot'ing [*Inf.*] to act in an emotional or theatrical manner

e·mo·tion (ē mō'shən, i-) *n.* [*< L e-, out + movere, to move*] 1 strong feeling 2 any specific feeling, as love, hate, fear, or anger

e·mo'tion·al *adj.* 1 of or showing emotion 2 easily aroused to emotion 3 appealing to the emotions; moving —**e·mo'tion·al·ism** *n.* —**e·mo'tion·al·ly** *adv.*

e·mo'tion·al·ize *vt.* -ized', -iz'ing to treat in an emotional way

em·pa·thet·ic (em'pə thet'ik) *adj.* of or

showing empathy: also **em·path'ic** (-path'ik)

em·pa·thize (em'pə thīz') *vt.* -thized', -thiz'ing to feel empathy (*with*)

em'pa·thy (-thē) *n.* [*< Gr en-, in + pathos, feeling*] the ability to share in another's emotions, thoughts, or feelings

em·per·or (em'pər ər) *n.* [*< L in-, in + parare, to set in order*] the supreme ruler of an empire

em·pha·sis (em'fə sis) *n., pl. -ses' (-sēz')* [*< Gr en-, in + phainein, to show*] 1 force of expression, action, etc. 2 special stress given to a word or phrase in speaking 3 importance; stress

em'pha·size (-sīz') *vt.* -sized', -siz'ing to give emphasis to; stress

em·phat·ic (em fat'ik, im-) *adj.* 1 felt or done with emphasis 2 using emphasis in speaking, etc. 3 forcible; striking —**em·phat'i·cal·ly** *adv.*

em·phy·se·ma (em'fə sē'mə, -zē'-) *n.* [*< Gr en-, in + physaein, to blow*] a condition of the lungs in which the air sacs become distended and lose elasticity

em·pire (em'pīr') *n.* [*see EMPEROR*] 1 supreme rule 2 government by an emperor or empress 3 a group of states or territories under one ruler 4 an extensive organization under the control of a single person, corporation, etc.

em·pir·i·cal (em pīr'i kəl) *adj.* [*< Gr en-, in + peira, trial*] relying or based on experiment or experience —**em·pir'i·cal·ly** *adv.* —**em·pir'i·cism** (-sīz'am) *n.*

em·place·ment (em plās' mənt, im-) *n.* the prepared position from which a heavy gun or guns are fired

em·ploy (em plōi', im-) *vt.* [*< L in-, in + plicare, to fold*] 1 to use 2 to keep busy or occupied 3 to engage the services of; hire —*n.* employment

em·ploy'a·ble *adj.* that can be employed; specif., physically or mentally fit to be hired for work

em·ploy'ee or **em·ploy'e** (-ē) *n.* one hired by another for wages or salary

em·ploy'er *n.* one who employs others for wages or salary

em·ploy'ment *n.* 1 an employing or being employed 2 work; occupation 3 the number or percentage of persons gainfully employed

em·po·ri·um (em pōr'ē əm) *n., pl. -ri·ums* or *-ri·a* (-ə) [*< Gr en-, in + poros, way*] a large store with a wide variety of things for sale

em·pow·er (em pou'ər, im-) *vt.* 1 to give power to; authorize 2 to enable —**em·pow'er·ment** *n.*

em·press (em'pris) *n.* 1 an emperor's wife 2 a woman ruler of an empire

emp·ty (emp'tē) *adj.* -ti·er, -ti·est [*OE æmettig*] 1 having nothing or no one in it; unoccupied 2 worthless [*empty pleasure*] 3 insincere [*empty promises*] —*vt.* -tied, -ty·ing 1 to make empty 2 to remove (the contents) of something —*vi.* 1 to become empty 2 to pour out; discharge —*n., pl. -ties* an empty truck, bottle, etc. —**emp'ti·ly** *adv.* —**emp'ti·ness** *n.*

emp'ty·hand'ed *adj.* bringing or carry-

ing away nothing

em-py-re-an (em pir'ē ən, em'pī rē'ən) *n.* [*< Gr en-, in + pyr, fire*] 1 the highest heaven 2 the sky; firmament

EMT *abbrev.* emergency medical technician

e-mu (ē'myōō') *n.* [*< Port ema, a crane*] a large, flightless Australian bird, somewhat like the ostrich but smaller

em-u-late (em'yōō lāt', -yə-) *vt.* -lat'ed, -lat'ing [*< L aemulus, trying to equal or excel*] 1 to try to equal or surpass 2 to imitate (a person or thing admired) 3 to rival successfully —**em'u-la'tion** *n.* —**em'u-la'tive** *adj.* —**em'u-la'tor** *n.*

e-mul-si-fy (ē mul'sə fī', i-) *vt., vi.* -fied', -fy'ing to form into an emulsion —**e-mul'si-fi-ca'tion** *n.*

e-mul'sion (-shən) *n.* [*< L e-, out + mulgere, to milk*] a colloidal suspension of one liquid in another, as photographic film coatings, some medications, etc.

en- [*< L in-, in*] *prefix* 1 to put or get into or on [*enthroned*] 2 to make, cause to be [*endanger*] 3 in or into [*encase*]

-en (ən, 'n) [*OE*] *suffix* 1 *a*) to become or cause to be [*darken*] *b*) to cause to have [*heighten*] 2 made of [*wooden*] 3 forming plurals [*children*]

en-a-ble (en ā'bəl, in-) *vt.* -bled, -bling 1 to make able; provide with means, power, etc. (to do something) 2 to support the dysfunctional behavior of, as by compensating for it —**en-a'bler** *n.*

en-act (en akt', in-) *vt.* 1 to pass (a bill, law, etc.) 2 to represent as in a play —**en-act'ment** *n.*

en-am-el (e nam'əl, i-) *n.* [*< OFr esmail*] 1 a glassy, opaque substance fused to metal, pottery, etc. as an ornamental or protective coating 2 the hard, white coating of teeth 3 paint that dries to a smooth, glossy surface —*vt.* -eled or -elled, -el-ing or -el-ling to coat with enamel —**en-am'el-er** or **en-am'el-ler** *n.*

en-am-or (en am'ər, in-) *vt.* [*ult. < L in-, in + amor, love*] to fill with love; charm: now mainly in the passive voice, with *of* [*enamored of her*]

en bloc (en blāk') [*Fr, lit., in a block*] in a mass; all together

en bro-chette (än brô shet') [*Fr*] broiled on small skewers

en-camp (en kəmp', in-) *vi., vt.* to set up, or put in, a camp —**en-camp'ment** *n.*

en-cap-su-late (en kap'sə lāt') *vt.* -lat'ed, -lat'ing 1 to enclose in a capsule 2 to make concise; condense Also **en-cap'sule** (-səl, -syool'), -suled, -sul-ing —**en-cap'su-la'tion** *n.*

en-case (en kās', in-) *vt.* -cased', -cas'ing to enclose, as in a case

en cas-se-rol (en kas'ə rōl') [*Fr*] (baked and served) in a casserole

-ence (əns, 'ns) [*< L*] *suffix* act, state, or result [*conference*]

en-ceph-a-li-tis (en sef'ə lit'is) *n.* [*< Gr en-, in + kephalē, the head + -ITIS*] inflammation of the brain

en-chain (en chān') *vt.* to bind with chains; fetter

en-chant (en chant', in-) *vt.* [*< L in-,*

intens. + cantare, sing] 1 to cast a spell over 2 to charm greatly; delight —**en-chant'er** *n.* —**en-chant'ing** *adj.* —**en-chant'ment** *n.*

en-chi-la-da (en'chi lä'də) *n.* [*AmSp*] a tortilla rolled with meat inside, served with a chili-flavored sauce

en-cir-cle (en sər'kəl, in-) *vt.* -cled, -cling 1 to surround 2 to move in a circle around —**en-cir'cle-ment** *n.*

encl *abbrev.* enclosure

en-clave (en'klāv', än'-) *n.* [*< L in, in + clavis, a key*] a territory surrounded by another country's territory

en-close (en klōz', in-) *vt.* -closed', -clos'ing 1 to shut in all around; surround 2 to insert in an envelope, etc., often along with something else

en-clo'sure (-klō'zhər) *n.* 1 an enclosing or being enclosed 2 something that encloses, as a fence 3 something enclosed, as in an envelope or by a wall

en-code (en kōd', in-) *vt.* -cod'ed, -cod'ing to put (a message, etc.) into code

en-co-mi-um (en kō'mē əm) *n., pl. -ums* or *-a* (-ə) [*< Gr en-, in + kōmos, a revel*] high praise; eulogy

en-com-pass (en kum'pəs, in-) *vt.* 1 to surround 2 to contain; include

en-core (än'kôr') *interj.* [*Fr*] again; once more —*n.* a further performance, etc. in answer to an audience's applause

en-coun-ter (en koun'tər, in-) *vt.* [*< L in, in + contra, against*] 1 to meet unexpectedly 2 to meet in conflict 3 to meet with (difficulties, etc.) —*n.* 1 a direct meeting, as in battle 2 a meeting, esp. when unexpected

en-cour-age (en kər'ij, in-) *vt.* -aged, -ag-ing 1 to give courage, hope, or confidence to 2 to give support to; help —**en-cour'age-ment** *n.*

en-croach (en krōch', in-) *vi.* [*< OFr en-, in + croc, a hook*] to trespass or intrude (on or upon) —**en-croach'ment** *n.*

en crou-te (än krōt') [*Fr*] wrapped in pastry and baked: said esp. of meats

en-crust (en krust') *vt.* to cover as with a crust —*vi.* to form a crust —**en'crus-ta'tion** (-krus tā'shən) *n.*

en-cum-ber (en kum'bər, in-) *vt.* [*see EN- & CUMBER*] 1 to hold back the motion or action of; hinder 2 to burden —**en-cum'brance** *n.*

-en-cy (ən sē) [*L -entia*] *suffix* -ENCE [*dependency*]

en-cyc-li-cal (en sik'li kəl, in-) *n.* [*< Gr en-, in + kyklos, a circle*] a papal document addressed to the bishops

en-cy-clo-pe-di-a or **en-cy-clo-pae-di-a** (en sī'klə pē'dē ə) *n.* [*< Gr enkyklios, general + paideia, education*] a book or set of books with alphabetically arranged articles on all branches, or on one field, of knowledge —**en-cy'clo-pe'dic** or **en-cy'clo-pae'dic** *adj.*

en-cyst (en sist') *vt., vi.* to enclose or become enclosed in a cyst, sac, etc. —**en-cyst'ment** *n.*

end (end) *n.* [*OE ende*] 1 a limit; boundary 2 the last part of anything; finish;

conclusion 3 a ceasing to exist; death or destruction 4 the part at or near an extremity; tip 5 an object; purpose 6 an outcome; result 7 *Football* a player at either end of the line —*vt.*, *vi.* to bring or come to an end; finish; stop —*adj.* at the end; final —*make* (both) **ends meet** to manage to keep one's expenses within one's income —*put an end to* 1 to stop 2 to do away with

en·dan·ger (en dān'jər, in-) *vt.* to expose to danger, harm, etc.; imperil — **en·dan'ger·ment** *n.*

endangered species a species of animal or plant in danger of becoming extinct

en·dear (en dir', in-) *vt.* to make dear or beloved —**en·dear'ing** *adj.*

en·dear'ment *n.* 1 an endearing 2 a word or act expressing affection

en·deav·or (en dev'ər, in-) *vi.* [*< EN- + OFr deveir, duty*] to make an earnest attempt; try: usually with an infinitive —*n.* an earnest attempt or effort *Brit. sp. en·deav'our*

en·dem·ic (en dem'ik) *adj.* [*< Gr en-, in- + dēmos, people*] native to, or constantly present in, a particular place, as a plant or disease —**en·dem'i·cal·ly** *adv.*

end'ing *n.* 1 the last part; finish 2 death

en·dive (en'div', än'dēv') *n.* [*< Gr entybon*] a cultivated plant with curled, narrow leaves used in salads

end'less *adj.* 1 having no end; eternal; infinite 2 lasting too long [*an endless speech*] 3 continual [*endless problems*] 4 with the ends joined to form a closed unit [*an endless chain*] —**end'less·ly** *adv.* —**end'less·ness** *n.*

end'most' *adj.* at the end; farthest

endo- [*< Gr endon*] *combining form* within, inner

en·do·crine (en'dō krin', -krin'; -də-) *adj.* [*prec. + Gr krinein, to separate*] designating or of any gland producing a hormone

en·dorse (en dōrs', in-) *vt.* -**dorsed'**, -**dors'ing** [*< L in, on + dorsum, the back*] 1 to write on the back of (a title, check, etc.) to transfer ownership, make a deposit, etc. 2 to sanction, approve, or support 3 to recommend (an advertised product) for a fee —**en·dorse'ment** *n.* —**en·dors'er** *n.*

en·do·scope (en'dō sköp', -də-) *n.* an instrument for examining visually the inside of a hollow organ or cavity of the body, as the rectum

en·dow (en dou', in-) *vt.* [*< OFr en-, in + dotare, to endow*] 1 to provide with some talent, quality, etc. [*endowed with courage*] 2 to give money or property to (a college, etc.) —**en·dow'ment** *n.*

end'point' *n.* a point of completion or furthest progress

end product the final result of a series of changes, processes, etc.

end table a small table placed at the end of a sofa, etc.

en·due (en dōo', in-) *vt.* -**dued'**, -**du'ing** [*< L in-, in + ducere, to lead*] to provide (*with* qualities)

en·dur·ance (en dōor'əns, in-) *n.* the ability to last, stand pain, etc.

en·dure (en dōor', in-) *vt.* -**dured'**, -**dur'ing** [*< L durus, hard*] 1 to hold up under (pain, etc.) 2 to tolerate —*vi.* 1 to continue; last 2 to bear pain, etc. without flinching —**en·dur'a·ble** *adj.*

end'ways' (-wāz') *adv.* 1 upright 2 with the end foremost 3 lengthwise Also **end'wise'** (-wīz')

-ene (ēn) [*after Gr -enos, adj. suffix*] *Chem. suffix* a certain type of hydrocarbon [*benzene*]

en·e·ma (en'ə mə) *n.* [*< Gr en-, in + hienai, send*] the forcing of a liquid, as a purgative, medicine, etc., into the colon through the anus

en·e·my (en'ə mē) *n.*, *pl.* -**mies** [*< L in-, not + amicus, friend*] 1 one who hates and wishes to injure another 2 *a)* a nation or force hostile to another *b)* troops, ship, etc. of a hostile nation 3 one hostile to an idea, cause, etc. 4 anything injurious or harmful

en·er·get·ic (en'ər jet'ik) *adj.* having or showing energy; vigorous —**en'er·get'i·cal·ly** *adv.*

en·er·gize (en'ər jīz') *vt.* -**gized'**, -**giz'ing** to give energy to; activate —**en'er·giz'er** *n.*

en·er·gy (en'ər jē) *n.*, *pl.* -**gies** [*< Gr en-, in + ergon, work*] 1 force of expression 2 *a)* inherent power; capacity for action *b)* [*often pl.*] such power, esp. in action 3 a resource, as oil or gas, from which usable energy can be produced 4 *Physics* the capacity for doing work

en·er·vate (en'ər vāt') *vt.* -**vat'ed**, -**vating** [*< L e-, out + nervus, nerve*] to deprive of strength, force, vigor, etc.; devitalize —**en'er·va'tion** *n.*

en·fee·ble (en fē'bəl, in-) *vt.* -**bled**, -**bling** to make feeble

en·fi·lade (en'fə lād', en'fə lād') *n.* [*Fr*] gunfire directed along a line of troops

en·fold (en fōld', in-) *vt.* 1 to wrap in folds; wrap up 2 to embrace

en·force (en fōrs', in-) *vt.* -**forced'**, -**forc'ing** 1 to impose by force [*to enforce one's will*] 2 to compel observance of (a law, etc.) —**en·force'a·ble** *adj.* —**en·force'ment** *n.* —**en·forc'er** *n.*

en·fran·chise (en fran'chīz', in-) *vt.* -**chised'**, -**chis'ing** 1 to free from slavery 2 to give the right to vote —**en·fran'chise·ment** (-chiz mənt) *n.*

Eng abbrev. 1 England 2 English

en·gage (en gāj', in-) *vt.* -**gaged'**, -**gag'ing** [*see EN- & GAGE¹*] 1 to pledge (oneself) 2 to bind by a promise of marriage 3 to hire 4 to involve or occupy 5 to attract and hold (the attention, etc.) 6 to enter into conflict with (the enemy) 7 to mesh (gears, etc.) —*vi.* 1 to pledge oneself 2 to occupy or involve oneself [*to engage in dramatics*] 3 to enter into conflict 4 to mesh

en·gaged' *adj.* 1 betrothed 2 occupied; employed 3 involved in combat, as troops 4 in gear; meshed

en·gage'ment *n.* an engaging or being engaged; specif., *a)* a betrothal *b)* an appointment *c)* employment *d)* a conflict; battle

en-gag'ing *adj.* attractive; pleasant; charming —**en-gag'ing-ly** *adv.*

en-gen·der (en jen'dər, in-) *vt.* [*< L in-, in + generare, beget*] to bring into being; cause; produce

en-gine (en'jən) *n.* [*< L in-, in + base of gignere, beget*] 1 any machine that uses energy to develop mechanical power 2 a railroad locomotive 3 any machine

en-gi·neer (en'jə nir') *n.* 1 one skilled in some branch of engineering 2 one who operates or supervises the operation of engines or technical equipment [*a locomotive engineer*] —*vt.* 1 to plan, construct, etc. as an engineer 2 to manage skillfully

en-gi·neer'ing *n.* 1 the science concerned with putting scientific knowledge to practical uses 2 the planning, designing, construction, or management of machinery, roads, bridges, etc.

Eng-land (in'glənd) division of the United Kingdom in S Great Britain: 50,357 sq. mi.; pop. 46,382,000

Eng-lish (in'glɪʃ) *adj.* 1 of England, its people, etc. 2 of the language of England and the U.S. —*n.* 1 the Germanic language of England and the U.S., also spoken in the Commonwealth, etc. 2 [*sometimes e-*] a spinning motion given to a ball —*the English* the people of England

English Channel arm of the Atlantic, between England & France

English horn a double-reed woodwind instrument

Eng'lish·man (-mən) *n., pl. -men* (-mən) a person born or living in England — **Eng'lish·wom'an**, *pl. -wom'en*, *fem.n.*

en-gorge (en gôrj', in-) *vt. -gorged', -gorg'ing* [*< OFr en-, in + gorge, gorge*] 1 to devour greedily 2 *Med.* to congest (tissue, etc.) with fluid, as blood

en-grave (en grāv', in-) *vt. -graved', -grav'ing* [*< Fr en-, in + graver, to incise*] 1 to cut or etch letters, designs, etc. in or on (a metal plate, etc.) 2 to print with such a plate 3 to impress deeply —**en-grav'er** *n.*

en-grav'ing *n.* 1 the act or art of one who engraves 2 an engraved plate, drawing, etc. 3 a print made from an engraved surface

en-gross (en grōs', in-) *vt.* [*< OFr engroissier, become thick*] to take the entire attention of; occupy wholly —**en-gross'ing** *adj.*

en-gulf (en gulf', in-) *vt.* to swallow up

en-hance (en hans', in-) *vt. -hanced', -hanc'ing* [*< L in-, in + altus, high*] to make greater, better, etc.; heighten — **en-hance'ment** *n.*

e-nig·ma (i nig'mə, -e-) *n.* [*< Gr ainos, story*] 1 a riddle 2 a perplexing or baffling matter, person, etc. —**en-ig-mat-ic** (en'ig mat'ik) *adj.*

en-jamb·ment or **en-jambe·ment** (en jam'mənt) *n.* [*< Fr enjambe, to encroach*] in poetry, the movement from one line to the next without a pause

en-join (en join', in-) *vt.* [*< L in-, in + jungere, join*] 1 to command; order; impose 2 to prohibit, esp. by legal

injunction

en-joy (en joi', in-) *vt.* [*< OFr en-, in + joir, rejoice*] 1 to get pleasure from; relish 2 to have the use or benefit of — **enjoy oneself** to have a good time — **en-joy'a-ble** *adj.* — **en-joy'ment** *n.*

en-large (en 'lärj', in-) *vt. -larged', -larg'ing* to make larger; expand —*vi.* 1 to become larger; expand 2 to speak or write at greater length: with *on* or *upon* — **en-large'ment** *n.*

en-light·en (en lit'n, in-) *vt.* 1 to free from ignorance, prejudice, etc. 2 to inform — **en-light'en-ment** *n.*

en-list (en list', in-) *vt., vi.* 1 to enroll in some branch of the armed forces 2 to engage in support of a cause or movement — **en-list'ment** *n.*

en-list'ed *adj.* of a person in the armed forces who is not a commissioned officer or warrant officer

en-liv·en (en li'vən, in-) *vt.* to make active, cheerful, etc.; liven up

en masse (en mas') [*Fr, lit., in mass*] in a group; as a whole

en-mesh (en mesh', in-) *vt.* to catch as in the meshes of a net; entangle

en-mi·ty (en'mə tē) *n., pl. -ties* [*see ENEMY*] the bitter attitude or feelings of an enemy or enemies; hostility

en-no·ble (e nō'bəl, i-) *vt. -bled, -bling* to give a noble quality to; dignify — **en-no'ble-ment** *n.*

en-nui (än'wē') *n.* [*Fr*] weariness and dissatisfaction from lack of interest; boredom

e-nor-mi·ty (ē nôr'mə tē, i-) *n., pl. -ties* [*< L enormis, immense*] 1 great wickedness 2 an outrageous act 3 enormous size or extent

e-nor-mous (ē nôr'məs, i-) *adj.* [*see prec.*] of great size, number, etc.; huge; vast; immense — **e-nor'mous-ly** *adv.*

e-nough (ē nuf', i-) *adj.* [*OE genoh*] as much or as many as necessary; sufficient —*n.* the amount needed —*adv.* 1 sufficiently 2 fully; quite [*oddly enough*] 3 tolerably

e-now (ē nou', i-) *adj., n., adv.* [*Archaic*] enough

en-plane (en plān', in-) *vi. -planed', -plan'ing* to board an airplane

en-quire (en kwīr', in-) *vt., vi. -quired', -quir'ing* INQUIRE — **en-quir'y** (-ē), *pl. -ies, n.*

en-rage (en rāj', in-) *vt. -raged', -rag'ing* to put into a rage; infuriate

en-rap·ture (en rap'chər, in-) *vt. -tured, -tur'ing* to fill with delight

en-rich (en rich', in-) *vt.* to make rich or richer; give greater value, better quality, etc. to — **en-rich'ment** *n.*

en-roll or **en-rol** (en rōl', in-) *vt., vi. -rolled', -roll'ing* 1 to record or be recorded in a roll or list 2 to enlist 3 to make or become a member — **en-roll'ment** or **en-rol'ment** *n.*

en route (än rōt', en-) [*Fr*] on the way

en-sconce (en skāns', in-) *vt. -sconced', -sconc'ing* [*< Du schans, small fort*] to place or settle snugly or securely

en-sem·ble (än sām'bəl) *n.* [*Fr < L in-,*

in + *simul*, at the same time] 1 total effect 2 a whole costume of matching parts 3 a) a small group of musicians, actors, etc. b) the performance of such a group

en-shrine (en shrīn', in-) *vt.* -shrined', -shrining 1 to enclose in a shrine 2 to hold as sacred; cherish —**en-shrine'ment** *n.*

en-shroud (en shroud', in-) *vt.* to cover as if with a shroud; hide; obscure

en-sign (en'sīn'; also, & for 2 always, -sən) *n.* [see INSIGNIA] 1 a flag or banner 2 U.S. Navy a commissioned officer of the lowest rank

en-silage (en'sə lij) *n.* [ult. < L *in-*, in + Gr *siros*, silo] the preserving of green fodder in a silo

en-slave (en slāv', in-) *vt.* -slaved', -slaving 1 to make a slave of 2 to subjugate —**en-slave'ment** *n.*

en-snare (en sner', in-) *vt.* -snared', -snaring to catch in or as in a snare

en-sue (en sū', in-) *vi.* -sued', -suing [< L *in-*, in + *sequi*, follow] 1 to come afterward 2 to result

en-sure (en shoer', in-) *vt.* -sured', -suring 1 to make sure 2 to protect

-ent (ənt) [< OFr *-ent*, L *-ens*, prp. ending] *suffix* 1 that has, shows, or does [insistent] 2 a person or thing that [superintendent, solvent]

en-tail (en tāl', in-) *vt.* [< OFr *taillier*, to cut] 1 Law to limit the inheritance of (real property) to a specific line of heirs 2 to make necessary; require

en-tan-gle (en tan'gəl, in-) *vt.* -gled, -gling 1 to involve in a tangle 2 to involve in difficulty 3 to confuse 4 to complicate —**en-tan'gle'ment** *n.*

en-tente (än tänt') *n.* [Fr < OFr *entendre*, understand] 1 an understanding or agreement, as between nations 2 the parties to this

en-ter (ent'ər) *vt.* [< L *intra*, within] 1 to come or go into 2 to penetrate 3 to insert 4 to write down in a list, etc. 5 to become a member of or participant in 6 to get (a person, etc.) admitted 7 to begin 8 to put on record, formally or before a law court 9 to input (data, etc.) into a computer —*vi.* 1 to come or go into some place 2 to penetrate —**enter into** 1 to take part in 2 to form a part of —**enter on** (or upon) to begin; start

en-ter-i-tis (ent'ər it'is) *n.* [< Gr *enteron*, intestine + *-ITIS*] inflammation of the intestine

en-ter-prise (ent'ər prīz') *n.* [ult. < L *inter*, in + *prehendere*, take] 1 an undertaking, esp. a big, bold, or difficult one 2 energy and initiative

en'ter-pris'ing *adj.* showing enterprise; full of energy and initiative

en-ter-tain (ent'ər tăn') *vt.* [ult. < L *inter*, between + *tenere*, to hold] 1 to amuse; divert 2 to have as a guest 3 to have in mind; consider —*vi.* to give hospitality to guests

en'ter-tain'er *n.* one who entertains; esp., a popular singer, comedian, etc.

en'ter-tain'ing *adj.* interesting and

pleasurable; amusing

en'ter-tain'ment *n.* 1 an entertaining or being entertained 2 something that entertains; esp., a show or performance

en-thrall or **en-thral** (en thrôl', in-) *vt.* -thrall'd', -thrall'ing [see EN- & THRALL] to captivate; fascinate

en-throne (en thrôn', in-) *vt.* -throned', -thron'ing 1 to place on a throne 2 to exalt

en-thuse (en thōōz', in-) [Inf.] *vi.* -thused', -thus'ing to express enthusiasm —*vt.* to make enthusiastic

en-thu-si-asm (en thōō'zē az'əm, in-) *n.* [< Gr *en-*, in + *theos*, god] intense or eager interest; zeal —**en-thu'si-ast'** (-ast', -əst) *n.* —**en-thu'si-as'tic** *adj.* —**en-thu'si-as'ti-cal-ly** *adv.*

en-tice (en tīs', in-) *vt.* -ticed', -tic'ing [< L *in*, in + *titio*, a burning brand] to tempt with hope of reward or pleasure —**en-tice'ment** *n.*

en-tire (en tīr', in-) *adj.* [< L *integer*, whole] not lacking any parts; whole; complete; intact —**en-tire'ly** *adv.*

en-tire'ty (-tē) *n., pl. -ties* 1 the state or fact of being entire; wholeness 2 an entire thing; whole

en-ti-tle (en tīt'l, in-) *vt.* -tled, -tling 1 to give a title or name to 2 to give a right or claim to

en-ti'tle-ment *n.* something to which one is entitled, esp. a benefit, as Medicare, provided by certain government programs

en-ti-ty (en'tə tē) *n., pl. -ties* [ult. < L *esse*, to be] 1 existence 2 a thing that has definite existence

en-tomb (en tōōm', in-) *vt.* to place in a tomb; bury —**en-tomb'ment** *n.*

en-to-mol-o-gy (en'tə māl'ə jē) *n.* [< Gr *entomon*, insect + *-LOGY*] the branch of zoology that deals with insects —**en'to-mo-log'i-cal** (-mə lāj'i kəl) *adj.* —**en'to-mol'o-gist** *n.*

en-tou-rage (än'too räzh') *n.* [Fr < *entourer*, surround] a group of accompanying attendants, etc.; retinue

en-trails (en'trālz, -trəlz) *pl. n.* [< L *interaneus*, internal] the inner organs; specif., the intestines

en-trance¹ (en'trəns) *n.* 1 the act of entering 2 a place for entering; door, etc. 3 permission or right to enter; admission

en-trance² (en trans', in-) *vt.* -tranced', -tranc'ing [see EN- & TRANCE] to fill with delight; enchant

en-trant (en'trənt) *n.* one who enters

en-trap (en trap', in-) *vt.* -trapped', -trap'ping to catch in or as in a trap —**en-trap'ment** *n.*

en-treat (en trēt', in-) *vt., vi.* [< OFr *en-*, in + *traiter*, to treat] to ask earnestly; beg; implore

en-treat'y *n., pl. -ies* an earnest request; prayer

en-tree or **en-trée** (än'trā') *n.* [Fr < OFr *entrer*, enter] 1 right to enter, use, etc.; access 2 the main course of a meal

en-trench (en trench', in-) *vt.* 1 to surround or fortify with trenches 2 to establish securely

en-tre-pre-neur (än'trə prə nūr') *n.* [Fr:

see ENTERPRISE] one who organizes a business' undertaking, assuming the risk for the sake of the profit —**en'tre-pre-neur'i-al** *adj.*

en-tro-py (en'trə pē) *n.* [< Gr *entropē*, a turning toward] 1 a thermodynamic measure of the energy unavailable for useful work in a changing system 2 a process of degeneration with increasing uncertainty, chaos, etc., specif., when regarded as the final stage of a social system

en-trust (en trust', in-) *vt.* 1 to charge with a trust or duty 2 to turn over for safekeeping

en-try (en'trē) *n.*, *pl.* -tries [< OFr: see ENTER] 1 an entering; entrance 2 a way by which to enter 3 an item or note in a list, journal, etc. 4 one entered in a race, etc.

en'try-lev-el *adj.* 1 designating a job with low pay but possible advancement 2 basic; introductory

en-twine (en twīn', in-) *vt.*, *vi.* -twined', -twīn'ing to twine together or around

e-nu-mer-ate (ē nōō'mər āt', i-) *vt.* -at'ed, -at'ing [< L *e-*, out + *numerare*, to count] 1 to count 2 to name one by one —**e-nu-mer-a'tion** *n.*

e-nun-ci-ate (ē nun'sē āt', i-) *vt.*, *vi.* -at'ed, -at'ing [< L *e-*, out + *nuntiare*, announce] 1 to state definitely 2 to announce 3 to pronounce (words), esp. clearly —**e-nun-ci-a'tion** *n.*

en-u-re-sis (en'yōō rē'sis) *n.* [ult. < L *in*, in + Gr *ouron*, urine] inability to control urination

en-vel-op (en vel'əp, in-) *vt.* [< OFr: see EN- & DEVELOP] 1 to wrap up; cover completely 2 to surround 3 to conceal; hide —**en-vel-op-ment** *n.*

en-ve-lope (än'və lōp', en'-) *n.* 1 a thing that envelops; covering 2 a folded paper container for a letter, etc., usually with a gummed flap

en-ven-om (en ven'am, in-) *vt.* 1 to put venom into 2 to fill with hate

en-vi-a-ble (en'vē ə bəl) *adj.* good enough to be envied or desired —**en'vi-a-bly** *adv.*

en-vi-ous (en'vē əs) *adj.* feeling or showing envy —**en'vi-ous-ly** *adv.*

en-vi-ron-ment (en vī'rən mənt, in-) *n.* [see ENVIRONS] 1 surroundings 2 all the conditions, etc. surrounding, and affecting the development of, an organism, food chain, etc. —**en-vi-ron-men'tal** *adj.*

en-vi-ron-men'tal-ist *n.* one working to solve environmental problems, as air and water pollution

en-vi-rons (en vī'rənz, in-) *pl.n.* [< OFr *en-*, in + *viron*, a circuit] 1 the districts surrounding a city; suburbs 2 surrounding area; vicinity

en-vis-age (en viz'ij, in-) *vt.* -aged, -ag-ing [see EN- & VISAGE] to form an image of in the mind; visualize

en-vi-sion (en vizh'an, in-) *vt.* [EN- + VISION] to imagine (something not yet in existence)

en-voy (än'voi', en'-) *n.* [< Fr < L *in*, in + *via*, way] 1 a messenger 2 a diplomatic agent just below an ambassador

en-vy (en'vē) *n.*, *pl.* -vies [< L *in-*, in + *videre*, to look] 1 discontent and ill will over another's advantages, possessions, etc. 2 desire for something that another has 3 an object of such feeling —**vt.** -vied, -vy-ing to feel envy toward or because of —**en'vy-ing-ly** *adv.*

en-zyme (en'zīm') *n.* [< Gr *en-*, in + *zymē*, leaven] a protein, formed in plant and animal cells or made synthetically, acting as a catalyst in chemical reactions

e-on (ē'an, ē'än') *n.* [< Gr *aiōn*, an age] an extremely long, indefinite period of time

-e-ous (ē əs) [< L *-eus* + *-OUS*] *suffix var.* of *-OUS* [gaseous]

EPA *abbrev.* Environmental Protection Agency

ep-au-let or **ep-au-lette** (ep'ə let', ep'ə let') *n.* [< Fr dim. of *épaule*, shoulder] a shoulder ornament, esp. on military uniforms

e-pee or **é-pée** (ā pā') *n.* [Fr] a fencing sword like a foil, but heavier and more rigid

e-phed-rine (e fe'drin) *n.* [< L *ephedra*, the plant horsetail] an alkaloid used to relieve nasal congestion and asthma

e-phem-er-al (e fem'ər əl, i-) *adj.* [< Gr *epi-*, upon + *hēmera*, day] 1 lasting one day 2 short-lived; transitory

epi- [< Gr *epi*, at, on] *prefix* on, upon, over, among [epiglottis]

ep-ic (ep'ik) *n.* [< Gr *epos*, a word, song, epic] a long narrative poem in a dignified style about the deeds of a hero or heroes —**adj.** of or like an epic; heroic; grand

ep-i-cen-ter (ep'i sent'ər) *n.* 1 the area of the earth's surface directly above the place of origin of an earthquake 2 a focal or central point

ep-i-cure (ep'i kyoor') *n.* [after *Epicurus*, ancient Gr philosopher] one who enjoys and has a discriminating taste for fine foods and drinks

ep-i-cu-re-an (ep'i kyōō rē'an, ep'i kyoor' ē an) *adj.* fond of sensuous pleasure, esp. that of eating and drinking —*n.* an epicure

ep-i-dem-ic (ep'ə dem'ik) *adj.* [< Fr < Gr *epi-*, among + *dēmos*, people] spreading rapidly among many people in a community, as a disease —*n.* 1 an epidemic disease 2 the spreading of such a disease 3 a rapid, widespread growth —**ep'i-dem'i-cal-ly** *adv.*

ep-i-de-mi-ol-o-gy (ep'ə dēm'ē əl'ə jē) *n.* [prec. + *-LOGY*] the branch of medicine that studies epidemics

ep-i-der-mis (ep'ə dər'mis) *n.* [< Gr *epi-*, upon + *derma*, the skin] the outermost layer of the skin —**ep'i-der-mal** or **ep'i-der-mic** *adj.*

ep-i-du-ral (ep'ə dūr'al) *adj.* on or outside the dura mater —*n.* local anesthesia of the lower body by epidural injection

ep-i-glot-tis (ep'ə glät'is) *n.* [see EPI- & GLOTTIS] the thin, lidlike piece of cartilage that covers the windpipe during swallowing

ep·i·gram (ep'ə gram') *n.* [*< Gr epi-, upon + graphein, write*] a terse, witty, pointed statement —**ep'i·gram·mat'ic** (-grə mat'ik) *adj.*

e·pig·ra·phy (ē pig'rə fē, i-) *n.* the study of inscriptions, esp. ancient ones

ep·i·lep·sy (ep'ə lep'sē) *n.* [*< Gr epi-, upon + lambanein, seize*] a recurrent disorder of the nervous system, characterized by seizures that cause convulsions, unconsciousness, etc.

ep'i·lep'tic (-tik) *adj.* of or having epilepsy —*n.* one who has epilepsy

ep·i·logue or **ep·i·log** (ep'ə lôg') *n.* [*< Gr epi-, upon + legein, speak*] a closing section added to a novel, play, etc., providing further comment, as a speech by an actor to the audience

E·piph·a·ny (ē pif'ə nē, i-) *n., pl. -nies* [*< Gr epiphainein, show forth*] 1 a Christian feast day (Jan. 6) commemorating the revealing of Jesus as the Christ to the Gentiles 2 [e-] a) a flash of insight b) an experience that brings this about

e·pis·co·pa·cy (ē pis'kə pə sē, i-) *n., pl. -cies* [*< Gr epi-, upon + skopein, to look*] 1 church government by bishops 2 EPISCOPATE

e·pis'co·pal (-pəl) *adj.* 1 of or governed by bishops 2 [E-] designating or of any of various churches governed by bishops

E·pis'co·pa'lian (-pāl'yən) *adj.* Episcopal —*n.* a member of the Protestant Episcopal Church

e·pis'co·pate (-pit, -pāt') *n.* 1 the position, rank, etc. of a bishop 2 bishops collectively

ep·i·sode (ep'ə sōd') *n.* [*< Gr epi-, upon + eisodos, entrance*] 1 any part of a novel, poem, etc. that is complete in itself 2 an event or series of events complete in itself —**ep'i·sod'ic** (-sād'ik) *adj.* —**ep'i·sod'i·cal·ly** *adv.*

e·pis·tle (ē pis'əl) *n.* [*< Gr epi-, to + stel·lein, send*] 1 a letter 2 [E-] any of the letters in the New Testament —**e·pis'to·lary** (-tə lər'ē) *adj.*

ep·i·taph (ep'ə taf') *n.* [*< Gr epi-, upon + taphos, tomb*] an inscription on a tomb, etc. in memory of a dead person

ep·i·the·li·um (ep'i thē'lē əm) *n., pl. -li·ums* or *-li·a* (-ə) [*< Gr epi-, upon + thēlē, nipple*] cellular tissue covering external body surfaces or lining internal surfaces —**ep'i·the'li·al** (-əl) *adj.*

ep·i·thet (ep'ə thet') *n.* [*< Gr epi-, on + tithenai, put*] a word or phrase characterizing some person or thing

e·pit·o·me (ē pit'ə mē', i-) *n., pl. -mes'* (-mēz') [*< Gr epi-, upon + temnein, to cut*] 1 an abstract; summary 2 a person or thing that shows the typical qualities of something

e·pit'o·mize' (-mīz') *vt.* -mized', -miz'ing to make or be an epitome of

e plu·ri·bus u·num (ē plōor'ē boos' ōō' noom) [*L*] out of many, one: a motto of the U.S.

ep·och (ep'ək) *n.* [*< Gr epi-, upon + echein, to hold*] 1 the start of a new period in the history of anything 2 a period of time in terms of noteworthy

events, persons, etc. —**ep'och·al** *adj.*

ep·ox·y (ē pāk'sē, i-) *adj.* [*EP(I)- + OXY(GEN)*] designating a resin used in strong, resistant glues, enamels, etc. —*n., pl. -ies* an epoxy resin

ep·si·lon (ep'sə lān') *n.* [*Gr e psilon, plain e*] the fifth letter of the Greek alphabet (E, ε)

Ep·som salts (or **salt**) (ep'sem) [*after Epsom, town in England*] a white, crystalline salt; magnesium sulfate, used as a cathartic

Ep·stein-Barr virus (ep'stīn bār') a herpes-like virus that causes infectious mononucleosis and may cause various forms of cancer

eq·ua·ble (ek'wə bəl) *adj.* [*see fol.*] steady; uniform; even; tranquil —**eq'ua·bil'i·ty** *n.* —**eq'ua·bly** *adv.*

e·qual (ē'kwəl) *adj.* [*< L aequus, even*] 1 of the same quantity, size, value, etc. 2 having the same rights, ability, rank, etc. 3 evenly proportioned 4 having the necessary ability, strength, etc.: with *to* —*n.* any person or thing that is equal —*vt.* e'qualed or e'qualified, e'qual·ing or e'qual·ling 1 to be equal to 2 to do or make something equal to —**e·qual·i·ty** (ē kwōl'ə tē, -kwāl'-), *pl. -ties, n.* —**e'qual·ly** *adv.*

e·qual·ize (ē'kwəl īz') *vt.* -ized', -iz'ing to make equal or uniform —**e'qual·i·za'tion** *n.* —**e'qual·iz'er** *n.*

e'qual-op'por·tu'ni·ty *adj.* treating all employees and job applicants equally, without regard to race, sex, etc.

equal sign the sign (=), indicating that the terms on either side of it are equal or equivalent

e·qua·nim·i·ty (ek'wə nim'ə tē, ē'kwə-) *n.* [*< L aequus, even + animus, mind*] evenness of temper; composure

e·quate (ē kwāt', i-) *vt.* e·quat'ed, e·quat'ing 1 to make equal 2 to treat, regard, or express as equal —**e·quat'a·ble** *adj.*

e·qua·tion (ē kwā'zhən, i-) *n.* 1 an equating or being equated 2 a statement of equality between two quantities, as shown by the equal sign (=)

e·qua·tor (ē kwāt'ər, i-) *n.* an imaginary circle around the earth, equally distant from the North Pole and the South Pole —**e·qua·to·ri·al** (ē'kwə tōr'ē əl, ek'wə-) *adj.*

Equatorial Guinea country in WC Africa: 10,831 sq. mi.; pop. 304,000

eq·uer·ry (ek'wər ē, ē kwer'ē) *n., pl. -ries* [*< Fr*] 1 [Historical] an officer in charge of royal horses 2 an officer who attends a person of royalty

e·ques·tri·an (ē kwes'trē ən, i-) *adj.* [*< L equus, horse*] 1 of horses or horsemanship 2 on horseback —*n.* a rider or circus performer on horseback —**e·ques'tri·enne'** (-trē en') *fem.n.*

equi- combining form equal, equally [*equidistant*]

e·qui·dis·tant (ē'kwī dis'tant) *adj.* equally distant

e'qui·lat'er·al (-lat'ər əl) *adj.* [*< L aequus, even + latus, side*] having all sides equal

e'qui·lib'ri·um (-lib'rē əm) *n., pl. -ri·ums*

or **-ri-a** (-ə) [*< L aequus, even + libra, a balance*] a state of balance between opposing forces

e-quine (ē'kwīn') *adj.* [*< L equus, horse*] of or like a horse

e-qui-nox (ē'kwī nāks', ek'wə nāks') *n.* [*< L aequus, even + nox, night*] the time when the sun crosses the equator, making night and day of equal length in all parts of the earth —**e'qui-noc'tial** (-nāk'shəl) *adj.*

e-quip (ē kwip', i-) *vt.* **e-quipped'**, **e-quip'ping** [*< OFr esquiper, embark*] to provide with what is needed

eq-ui-page (ek'wi pij) *n.* a carriage with horses and liveried servants

e-quip-ment (ē kwip'mənt, i-) *n.* 1 an equipping or being equipped 2 whatever one is equipped with; supplies, furnishings, etc.

eq-ui-poise (ek'wi poiz', ē'kwī-) *n.* [*EQUI- + POISE*] 1 state of equilibrium 2 a counterbalance

eq-ui-ta-ble (ek'wit ə bəl) *adj.* [*see EQUITY*] fair; just —**eq'ui-ta-bly** *adv.*

eq-ui-ta-tion (ek'wi tā'shən) *n.* [*< L equitare, to ride*] the art of riding on horseback

eq-ui-ty (ek'wit ē) *n., pl. -ties* [*< L aequus, even*] 1 fairness; impartiality; justice 2 the value of property beyond the amount owed on it 3 *Finance* a) assets minus liabilities; net worth b) [*pl.*] shares of stock. 4 *Law* a system of doctrines supplementing common and statute law

e-quiv-a-lent (ē kwiv'ə lənt, i-) *adj.* [*< L aequus, equal + valere, be worth*] equal in quantity, value, force, meaning, etc. —*n.* an equivalent thing. —**e-quiv'a-lence** *n.*

e-quiv-o-cal (ē kwiv'ə kəl, i-) *adj.* [*< L aequus, even + vox, voice*] 1 having two or more meanings; purposely ambiguous 2 uncertain; doubtful 3 suspicious [*equivocal conduct*] —**e-quiv'o-cal-ly** *adv.* —**e-quiv'o-cal-ness** *n.*

e-quiv'o-cate' (-kāt') *vi.* **-cat'ed**, **-cat'ing** to use equivocal terms in order to deceive; hedge, etc. —**e-quiv'o-ca'tion** *n.* —**e-quiv'o-ca'tor** *n.*

ER *abbrev.* emergency room

-er (ər) [*ME*] *suffix* 1 a) a person or thing having to do with [*hatter*]. b) a person living in [*New Yorker*] c) one that ____s [*roller*] 2 forming the comparative degree [*later*] 3 repeatedly: added to verbs [*flicker*]

e-ra (ir'ə; er'ə) *n.* [*LL aera*] 1 a period of time measured from some important event 2 a period of time having some special characteristic

ERA *abbrev.* 1 *Baseball* earned run average; also *era* 2 *Equal Rights Amendment*

e-rad-i-cate (ē rad'i kāt', i-) *vt.* **-cat'ed**, **-cat'ing** [*< L e-, out + radix, root*] to uproot; wipe out; destroy —**e-rad'i-ca'tion** *n.* —**e-rad'i-ca'tor** *n.*

e-rase (ē rās', i-) *vt.* **e-rased'**; **e-ras'ing** [*< L e-, out + radere, scrape*] 1 to rub, scrape, or wipe out (esp. writing) 2 to remove (something recorded) from (magnetic tape) 3 to obliterate, as from the mind —**e-ras'a-ble** *adj.*

e-ras'er *n.* a thing that erases; specif., a rubber device for erasing ink or pencil marks, or a pad for removing chalk marks from a blackboard

E-ras-mus (i raz'məs), **Des-i-der-i-us** (des'ə dir'ē əs) 1466?-1536; Du. humanist & theologian

e-ra-sure (ē rā'shər, i-) *n.* 1 an erasing 2 an erased word, mark, etc.

ere (er) [*Old Poet.*] *prep.* [*OE ær*] before (in time) —*conj.* 1 before 2 rather than

e-rect (ē rekt', i-) *adj.* [*< L e-, up + regere, make straight*] upright —*vt.* 1 to construct (a building, etc.) 2 to set in an upright position; raise 3 to set up; assemble —**e-rec'tion** *n.* —**e-rect'ly** *adv.* —**e-rect'ness** *n.* —**e-rec'tor** *n.*

e-rec-tile (ē rek'til, i-) *adj.* that can become erect: used esp. of tissue that becomes rigid when filled with blood

erg (ərg) *n.* [*< Gr ergon, work*] *Physics* a unit of work or energy

er-go (er'gō) *adv.* [*L*] therefore

er-go-nom-ics (ər'gō nām'iks) *n.* [*ult. < Gr ergon, work + (EC)ONOMICS*] the science of adapting working conditions to the needs of the worker

Er-ie (ir'ē), Lake one of the Great Lakes, between Lake Huron & Lake Ontario

Er-in (er'in) *old poet. name for IRELAND*

Er-i-tre-a (er'ə trē'ə) country in E Africa: 36,171 sq. mi.; pop. 3,525,000 —**Er-i-tre'an** *adj., n.*

er-mine (ər'min) *n.* [*prob. < OHG harmo, weasel*] 1 a weasel whose fur is white in winter 2 its white fur

e-rod (ē rōd', i-) *vt.* **e-rod'ed**, **e-rod'ing** [*< L e-, out + rodere, gnaw*] 1 to wear away 2 to form by wearing away gradually —*vi.* to become eroded

e-rog-e-nous (ē rāj'ə nəs, i-) *adj.* [*< Gr erōs, love + -GEN + -OUS*] sensitive to sexual stimulation: also **e-ro-to-gen-ic** (er'ə tō'jen'ik)

E-ros (er'äs', ir'-) *n.* 1 *Gr. Myth.* the god of love 2 [e-] sexual love or desire

e-ro-sion (ē rō'zhən, i-) *n.* an eroding or being eroded —**e-ro'sive** (-siv) *adj.*

e-rot-ic (ē rāt'ik, i-) *adj.* [*< Gr erōs, love*] of or arousing sexual feelings or desires; amatory —**e-rot'i-cal-ly** *adv.*

e-rot'i-ca (-i kə) *pl.n.* [*often with sing. v.*] erotic books, pictures, etc.

err (ər, er) *vi.* [*< L errare, wander*] 1 to be wrong or mistaken 2 to deviate from the established moral code

er-rand (er'ənd) *n.* [*OE ærende, mission*] 1 a trip to do a thing, often esp. for someone else 2 the thing to be done

er-rant (er'ənt) *adj.* [*see ERR*] 1 roving or wandering, esp. in search of adventure [*a medieval knight-errant*] 2 erring 3 shifting about [*an errant wind*]

er-rat-ic (i rat'ik) *adj.* [*< L errare, wander*] 1 irregular; random 2 eccentric; queer —**er-rat'i-cal-ly** *adv.*

er-ra-tum (e rāt'am, -rāt'-) *n., pl. -ta* (-ə) [*see ERR*] an error in a work already printed

er-ro-ne-ous (e rō'nē əs) *adj.* containing

error; mistaken; wrong —**er-ro'ne-ous-ly** *adv.*

er-ror (er'ər) *n.* [see ERR] 1 the state of believing what is untrue 2 a wrong belief 3 something incorrectly done; mistake 4 a transgression 5 *Baseball* any misplay in fielding

er-satz (er'zäts', er zäts') *n., adj.* [Ger] substitute or synthetic, and usually inferior

Erse (ürs) *adj., n.* [ME *Erish*, var. of *Irisc*, Irish] (of) GAELIC and, sometimes, IRISH (*n.* 1)

erst-while (ərst'hwil') *adv.* [Archaic] formerly —*adj.* former

e-ruct (ē rukt') *vt., vi.* [< L *e-*, out + *ructare*, to belch] to belch —**e'ruc-ta'tion** *n.*

er-u-dite (er'yūō dit', -ōō-) *adj.* [< L *e-*, out + *rudis*, rude] learned; scholarly —**er'u-dite'ly** *adv.*

er-u-di-tion (er'yūō dish'an) *n.* learning acquired by reading and study

e-rupt (ē rupt', i-) *vi.* [< L *e-*, out + *rumpere*, to break] 1 to burst forth or out [lava erupting] 2 to throw forth lava, water, etc. 3 to break out in a rash —*vt.* to cause to burst forth

e-rup-tion (ē rup'shən, i-) *n.* 1 a bursting forth or out 2 *a*) a breaking out in a rash *b*) a rash

-er-y (ər ē, er'ē) [< LL *-aria*] *suffix* 1 a place to [tannery] 2 a place for [nunnery] 3 the practice or act of [midwifery] 4 the product of [pottery] 5 a collection of [greenery] 6 the condition of [drudgery]

er-y-sip-e-las (er'i sip'ə ləs) *n.* [ult. < Gr *erythros*, red + *-pelas*, skin] a bacterial infection of the skin or mucous membranes

e-ryth-ro-cyte (e rith'rō sīt') *n.* [< Gr *erythros*, red + *kytos*, a hollow] a mature red blood cell that contains hemoglobin, which carries oxygen to the body tissues

-es (iz, əz, z) [< OE] *suffix* 1 forming plurals [glasses] 2 forming the 3d person sing., pres. indic., of verbs [he kisses]

E-sau (ē'sō') *n.* Bible Isaac's son who sold his birthright to his brother, Jacob

es-ca-late (es'kə lāt') *vi.* -lat'ed, -lat'ing 1 to rise as on an escalator 2 to expand step by step 3 to increase rapidly —**es'ca-la'tion** *n.*

es'ca-la'tor (-ər) *n.* [ult. < L *scala*, ladder] a moving stairway on an endless belt

es-ca-pade (es'kə pād') *n.* [Fr: see fol.] a reckless adventure or prank

es-cape (e skāp', i-) *vi.* -cap'ed', -cap'ing [< L *ex-*, out of + LL *cappa*, cloak] 1 to get free 2 to avoid an illness, accident; etc. 3 to leak away —*vt.* 1 to get away from 2 to avoid [to escape death] 3 to come from involuntarily [a scream escaped her lips] 4 to be missed or forgotten by —*n.* 1 an escaping 2 a means of escape 3 a leakage 4 a temporary mental release from reality —*adj.* providing an escape

es-cap-ee (e skāp'ē, es'kā pē') *n.* one

who has escaped, as from prison

es-cape'ment *n.* a notched wheel with a detaining catch that controls the action of a mechanical clock or watch

escape velocity the minimum speed required for a particle, space vehicle, etc. to escape permanently from the gravitational field of a planet, star, etc.

es-cap'ism' *n.* a tendency to escape from reality, responsibilities, etc. through the imagination —**es-cap'ist** *adj., n.*

es-car-got (es'kär gō') *n.* [Fr] an edible snail

es-ca-role (es'kə rōl') *n.* [Fr] ENDIVE

es-carp-ment (e skārp'mənt) *n.* [< Fr] a steep slope or cliff

-es-cence (es'əns) [see fol.] *suffix* the process of becoming [obsolescence]

-es-cent (es'ənt) [L *-escens*] *suffix* 1 starting to be, being, or becoming [obsolescent] 2 giving off light (as specified) [phosphorescent]

es-chew (es chōō') *vt.* [< OHG *sciuhan*, to fear] to shun; avoid —**es-chew'al** *n.*

es-cort (es'kōrt'; *for v.* i skōrt') *n.* [< L *ex-*, out + *corrigere*, set right] 1 one or more persons, cars, etc. accompanying another or others to give protection or show honor 2 a man accompanying a woman —*vt.* to go with as an escort

es-cri-toire (es'kri twär') *n.* [OFr < L *scribere*, write] a writing desk

es-crow (es'krō') *n.* [see SCROLL] used chiefly in in escrow, put in the care of a third party until certain conditions are fulfilled

es-cutch-eon (e skuch'ən, i-) *n.* [< L *scutum*, shield] a shield on which a coat of arms is displayed

-ese (ēz, ēs) [< L *-ensis*] *suffix* 1 of a country or place [Javanese] 2 (in) the language of [Cantonese] 3 a person born or living in [Portuguese]

Es-ki-mo (es'kə mō') *n.* [prob. < Fr < AmInd] 1 *pl.* -mos' or -mo' a member of a group of North American peoples in Greenland, N Canada, and Alaska 2 any of the languages of the Eskimos —*adj.* of the Eskimos or their languages, etc.

Eskimo dog any of several large, strong dogs used by the Eskimos to pull sleds

ESL *abbrev.* English as a second language

e-soph-a-gus (i säf'ə gəs) *n., pl.* -gi' (-jī') [< Gr *oisophagos*] the tube through which food passes from the pharynx to the stomach

es-o-ter-ic (es'ə ter'ik) *adj.* [< Gr *esōteros*, inner] intended for or understood by only a chosen few

ESP (ē'es'pē') *n.* extrasensory perception

esp. *abbrev.* especially

es-pa-drille (es'pə dril') *n.* [Fr < Sp *esparto*, coarse grass] a casual shoe with a canvas upper and a sole of twisted rope

es-pal-ier (es pal'yər) *n.* [Fr < It *spalla*, shoulder] 1 a lattice on which trees or shrubs are trained to grow flat 2 a plant-trained in this way —*vt.* to provide with an espalier

es-pe-cial (e spesh'əl, i-) *adj.* special; particular —**es-pe'cial-ly** *adv.*

Es-pe-ran-to (es'pə rān'tō, -ran'-) *n.* an invented international language based on European word roots

es-pi-o-nage (es'pē ə nāzh') *n.* [*< Fr < It spia, spy*] the act or practice of spying

es-pla-nade (es'plə nād', -nād') *n.* [*< Fr < It < L explanare, to level*] a level, open stretch of ground, esp. one serving as a public walk

es-pous-al (e spou'zəl, i-) *n.* an espousing (of some cause, idea, etc.); advocacy

es-pouse (e-spouz', i-) *vt.* -poused', -pous'ing [*see SPOUSE*] 1 to marry 2 to advocate (some cause, idea, etc.)

es-pres-so (e spres'ō) *n., pl. -sos* [*It*] coffee made by forcing steam through finely ground coffee beans

es-prit de corps (e sprē' də kôr') [*Fr*] group spirit; pride, etc. shared by those in the same group

es-py (e spī', i-) *vt.* -pied', -py'ing [*see SPY*] to catch sight of; spy

-esque (esk) [*Fr < It -esco*] *suffix* 1 in the manner or style of [*Romanesque*] 2 like [*statuesque*]

es-quire (es'kwīr') *n.* [*< L scutum, a shield*] 1 [Historical] a candidate for knighthood; squire 2 in England, a member of the gentry ranking just below a knight 3 [E-] a title of courtesy: in the U.S., now specif. used by lawyers: usually abbrev. **Esq** or **Esqr**

-ess (es, is, əs) [*< LL -issa*] *suffix* female [*lioness*]

es-say (e sā'; *for n. 1 usually, & for n. 2 always, es'ā*) *vt.* [*< LL ex-, out of + agere, to do*] to try; attempt —*n.* 1 a trying or testing 2 a short literary composition in which the author analyzes or interprets something in a personal way —**es-say'er** *n.* —**es'say-ist** *n.*

es-sence (es'əns) *n.* [*< L esse, to be*] 1 the basic nature (of something) 2 *a*) a concentrated substance that keeps the flavor, etc. of that from which it is extracted *b*) perfume

Es-sene (es'ēn', e sēn') *n.* a member of an ancient Jewish ascetic sect that existed to the middle of the 1st c. A.D.

es-sen-tial (ə sen'shəl, i-) *adj.* 1 of or constituting the essence of something; basic 2 absolutely necessary; indispensable —*n.* something necessary or fundamental —**es-sen'tial-ly** *adv.*

est *abbrev.* 1 established: also **estab** 2 estimate 3 estimated

EST *abbrev.* Eastern Standard Time

-est (est, ist, əst) [*OE*] *suffix* forming the superlative degree [*greatest*]

es-tab-lish (ə stab'lish, i-) *vt.* [*< L stabilis, stable*] 1 to order, ordain, or enact (a law, etc.) permanently 2 to set up (a nation, business, etc.) 3 to cause to be; bring about 4 to set up in a business, etc. 5 to cause to be accepted 6 to prove; demonstrate

es-tab'lish-ment *n.* 1 an establishing or being established 2 a thing established, as a business —**the Establishment** an inner circle thought of as holding decisive power in a nation, institution, etc.

es-tate (ə stāt', i-) *n.* [*< OFr estat*] 1 a condition or stage of life 2 property;

possessions 3 a large, individually owned, piece of land containing a residence

es-teem (ə stēm', i-) *vt.* [*< L aestimare, to value*] 1 to value highly; respect 2 to consider —*n.* favorable opinion

es-ter (es'tər) *n.* [*Ger < essig, vinegar + äther, ether*] an organic compound formed by the reaction of an acid and an alcohol

Es-ther (es'tər) *n.* *Bible* the Jewish wife of a Persian king: she saved her people from slaughter

es-thete (es'thēt') *n.* AESTHETE. —**es-thet'ics** (-thet'iks) *pl.n.*

es-ti-ma-ble (es'tə mə bəl) *adj.* worthy of esteem

es-ti-mate (es'tə māt'; *for n., -mit*) *vt.* -mat'ed, -mat'ing [*see ESTEEM*] 1 to form an opinion about 2 to calculate approximately (size, cost, etc.) —*n.* 1 a general calculation; esp., an approximate computation of probable cost 2 an opinion or judgment —**es'ti-ma'tor** *n.*

es'ti-ma'tion *n.* 1 an estimate or judgment 2 esteem; regard

Es-to-ni-a (e stō'nē ə, -stōn'yə) country in N Europe: formerly a republic of the U.S.S.R.: 17,413 sq. mi.; pop. 1,566,000 —**Es-to'ni-an** *adj., n.*

es-trange (e strānj', i-) *vt.* -tranged', -trang'ing [*< L extraneus, strange*] to turn (a person) from an affectionate attitude to an indifferent or unfriendly one —**es-trange'ment** *n.*

es-tro-gen (es'trə jən) *n.* [*< Gr oistros, frenzy + -GEN*] any of several female sex hormones or synthetic compounds

es-trous cycle (es'trəs) the regular female reproductive cycle of most placental mammals

es-tu-ar-y (es'tyō er'ē, -chō-) *n., pl. -ies* [*< L aestus, the tide*] the wide mouth of a river into which the tide flows from the sea

ET *abbrev.* Eastern Time

-et (et, it, ət) [*< LL -itus*] *suffix* little [*islet*]

e-ta (āt'ə, ēt'ə) *n.* the seventh letter of the Greek alphabet (H, η)

ETA *abbrev.* estimated time of arrival

é-ta-gère (ā'tä zher') *n.* [*Fr*] a stand with open shelves, for displaying art objects, ornaments, etc.

et al. *abbrev.* [*L et alii*] and others

et cet-er-a (et set'ər ə, se'trə) [*L*] and others; and the like: *abbrev. etc.*

etch (ech) *vt.* [*< MHG ezzen, eat*] to make (a drawing, design, etc.) on metal, glass, etc. by the action of an acid —**etch'er** *n.*

etch'ing *n.* 1 the art of an etcher 2 a print made from an etched plate

e-ter-nal (ē tur'nəl, i-) *adj.* [*< L aeternus*] 1 without beginning or end; everlasting 2 always the same; unchanging 3 seeming never to stop —**e-ter'nal-ly** *adv.* —**e-ter'nal-ness** *n.*

e-ter-ni-ty (ē tur'nə tē, i-) *n., pl. -ties* 1 the state or fact of being eternal 2 infinite or endless time 3 a long period of time that seems endless 4 the endless

time after death

eth·ane (eth'ān') *n.* [**< fol.**] an odorless, colorless, gaseous hydrocarbon, found in natural gas and used as a fuel

e·ther (ē'thər) *n.* [**< Gr** *aithein*, to burn] 1 an imaginary substance once thought to pervade space 2 the upper regions of space 3 a volatile, colorless, highly flammable liquid used as an anesthetic and a solvent

e·the·re·al (ē thir'ē əl, i-) *adj.* 1 very light; airy; delicate 2 not earthly; heavenly; celestial —**e·the're-al-ly** *adv.*

eth·ic (eth'ik) *n.* [**see fol.**] a system of moral standards

eth·i·cal (eth'i kəl) *adj.* [**< Gr** *ēthos*, character] 1 having to do with ethics; of or conforming to moral standards 2 conforming to professional standards of conduct —**eth'i-cal-ly** *adv.*

eth·ics (eth'iks) *n.* 1 the study of standards of conduct and moral judgment 2 [*with sing. or pl. verb*] the system of morals of a particular person, religion, group, etc.

E·thi·o·pi·a (ē'thē ō'pē ə) country in E Africa: 423,940 sq. mi.; pop. 42,019,000 —**E'thi-o'pi-an** *adj., n.*

eth·nic (eth'nik) *adj.* [**< Gr** *ethnos*, nation] designating or of a group of people having common customs, characteristics, language, etc. —*n.* a member of an ethnic group, esp. a minority or nationality group —**eth'ni-cal-ly** *adv.*

eth·nic·i·ty (eth nis'ə tē) *n.* ethnic classification or affiliation

eth·nol·o·gy (eth nāl'ə jē) *n.* [**< Gr** *ethnos*, nation + **-LOGY**] the branch of anthropology that studies comparatively the cultures of contemporary, or recent, societies or language groups —**eth'no-log'i-cal** (-nə lāj'i kəl) *adj.* —**eth-nol'o-gist** *n.*

e·thos (ē'thās') *n.* [**Gr** *ēthos*, character] the characteristic attitudes, habits, etc. of an individual or group

eth·yl (eth'əl) *n.* [**< ETHER**] the hydrocarbon radical that forms the base of ethyl alcohol, ether, etc.

ethyl alcohol ALCOHOL (sense 1)

eth·yl·ene (eth'əl ēn') *n.* [**ETHYL** + **-ENE**] a colorless, flammable, gaseous hydrocarbon used to synthesize organic chemicals, esp. polyethylene

ethylene gly·col (glī'kōl') a colorless, viscous liquid used as an antifreeze, solvent, etc.

e·ti·ol·o·gy (ēt'ē əl'ə jē) *n., pl. -gies* [**< Gr** *aitia*, cause + *logia*, description] 1 the cause assigned, as for a disease 2 the science of causes or origins —**e'ti-o-log'ic** (-ə lāj'ik) *adj.*

et·i·quette (et'i kit) *n.* [**Fr** *étiquette*, lit., ticket] the forms, manners, etc. conventionally acceptable or required in society, a profession, etc.

Et·na (et'nə), Mount volcanic mountain in E Sicily

E·to·bi·coke (i tō'bi kō') city within metropolitan Toronto, Canada: pop. 329,000

E·trus·can (i trus'kən) *adj.* of an ancient

country (*Etruria*) in what is now central Italy

et seq. *abbrev.* [**L** *et sequens*] and the following

-ette (et) [**Fr**: see **-ET**] *suffix* 1 little [*statuette*] 2 female [*maquette*]

é·tude (ā'tōd') *n.* [**Fr**, a study] a musical composition for a solo instrument, designed to give practice in some point of technique

et·y·mol·o·gy (et'ə māl'ə jē) *n., pl. -gies* [**< Gr** *etymos*, true + *logos*, word] 1 the origin and development of a word 2 the linguistic study of word origins —**et'y-mo-log'i-cal** (-mə lāj'i kəl) *adj.* —**et'y-mol'o-gist** *n.*

EU *abbrev.* European Union

eu- [**Fr** < **Gr**] *prefix* good, well [*eulogy*, *euphony*]

eu·ca·lyp·tus (yōō'kə lip'təs) *n., pl. -tuses or -ti' (-tī')* [**< Gr** *eu-*, well + *kalyptos*, covered] a tall, aromatic, chiefly Australian evergreen tree of the myrtle family

Eu·cha·rist (yōō'kə rist) *n.* [**< Gr** *eucharistia*, gratitude] 1 HOLY COMMUNION 2 the consecrated bread and wine used in this —**Eu'cha-ris'tic** *adj.*

eu·chre (yōō'kər) *n.* [**< ?**] a card game played with thirty-two cards

Eu·clid (yōō'klid) flourished 4th c. B.C.; Gr. mathematician: author of a basic work in geometry —**Eu·clid'e-an** (-ē ən) or **Eu·clid'i-an** *adj.*

Eu·gene (yōō jēn', yōō'jēn) city in W Oregon: pop. 113,000

eu·gen·ics (yōō jen'iks) *n.* [**see EU-** & **GENESIS**] the movement devoted to improving the human species by controlling heredity —**eu·gen'ic** *adj.* —**eu·gen'i-cal-ly** *adv.* —**eu·gen'i-cist** (-ə sist) *n.*

eu·lo·gize (yōō'lə jīz') *vt. -gized', -giz'ing* [**see fol.**] to praise highly —**eu'lo-gist** or **eu'lo-giz'er** *n.*

eu'lo·gy (-jē) *n., pl. -gies* [**< Gr** *eulegein*, speak well of] 1 speech or writing praising a person or thing; esp., a funeral oration 2 high praise —**eu'lo-gis'tic** (-jis'tik) *adj.*

eu·nuch (yōō'nək) *n.* [**< Gr** *eunouchos*, guardian of the bed] a castrated man

eu·phe·mism (yōō'fə miz'əm) *n.* [**< Gr** *eu-*, good + *phēmē*, speech] 1 the use of a less direct word or phrase for one considered offensive 2 a word or phrase so substituted —**eu'phe-mis'tic** *adj.* —**eu'phe-mis'ti-cal-ly** *adv.*

eu·pho·ni·ous (yōō fō'nē əs) *adj.* having a pleasant sound; harmonious —**eu-pho'ni-ous-ly** *adv.*

eu·pho·ny (yōō'fə nē) *n., pl. -nies* [**< Gr** *eu-*, good + *phōnē*, voice] a pleasant combination of agreeable sounds, as in speech

eu·pho·ri·a (yōō fōr'ē ə) *n.* [**< Gr** *eu-*, well + *pherein*, to bear] a feeling of well-being —**eu-phor'ic** *adj.*

Eu·phra·tes (yōō frāt'ēz) river flowing from EC Turkey through Syria & Iraq into the Persian Gulf: cf. **TIGRIS**

Eur·a·sia (yoor ā'zhə) land mass made up of Europe & Asia

Eur·a'sian (-zhən) *adj.* 1 of Eurasia 2

- of mixed European and Asian descent
—*n.* a person of Eurasian descent
- eu·re·ka** (yoo rē'kə) *interj.* [*< Gr heurēka, I have found*] used to express triumphant achievement
- Eu·rip·i·des** (yoo rip'ə dēz') 480-406 B.C.; Gr. writer of tragedies
- eu·ro** (yoor'ō) *n.* the basic monetary unit of the European Monetary Union
- Eu·rope** (yoor'əp) continent between Asia & the Atlantic: c. 3,800,000 sq. mi.; pop. c. 710,000,000 —**Eu·ro·pe·an** (yoor'ə pē'an) *adj., n.*
- European Community** an organization of European countries established in 1967 to bring about the political and economic unification of W Europe
- European Monetary Union** a union of those 12 members of the European Union that use the euro as their only legal currency
- European plan** a system of hotel operation in which guests are charged for rooms and pay for meals separately
- European Union** a union of European nations created in 1993 to bring about the gradual unification of Europe
- eu·ryth·mics** (yoo rith'miks) *n.* [*< Gr eu-, good + rhythmos, rhythm*] the art of performing bodily movements in rhythm, usually to music
- eu·sta·chian tube** (yoo stā'shən) [*after B. Eustachio, 16th-c. It anatomist*] [*also E- t-*] a slender tube between the middle ear and the pharynx
- eu·tha·na·sia** (yoo'thə nā'zhə) *n.* [*< Gr eu-, good + thanatos, death*] the act of causing death painlessly, so as to end suffering
- eu·tha·nize** (yoo'thə nīz') *vt. -nized', -niz'ing* to put to death by euthanasia
- e·vac·u·ate** (ē vak'yoo'āt') *vt. -at'ed, -at'ing* [*< L e-, out + vacuus, empty*] 1 to make empty 2 to discharge (bodily waste, esp. feces) 3 to withdraw from —*vi.* to withdraw —**e·vac·u·a'tion** *n.* —**e·vac·u·ee'** (ē') *n.*
- e·vade** (ē vād', i-) *vi., vt. e·vad'ed, e·vad'ing* [*< L e-, out, from + vadere, go*] 1 to avoid or escape (from) by deceit or cleverness 2 to avoid doing or answering directly —**e·vad'er** *n.*
- e·val·u·ate** (ē val'yoo'āt', i-) *vt. -at'ed, -at'ing* [*ult. < L valere, be worth*] 1 to find the value or amount of 2 to judge the worth of —**e·val'u·a'tion** *n.*
- ev·a·nes·cent** (ev'ə nes'ənt) *adj.* [*< L e-, out + vanescere, vanish*] tending to fade from sight; fleeting; ephemeral —**ev'a·nes'cence** *n.*
- e·van·gel·i·cal** (ē'van jel'i kəl, ev'an-) *adj.* [*< Gr euangelos, bringing good news*] 1 of or according to the Gospels or the New Testament 2 of those Protestant churches that emphasize salvation by faith in Jesus
- e·van·ge·list** (ē van'jə list) *n.* 1 [E-] any of the four writers of the Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John 2 a revivalist or a preacher who holds large public services in various cities, now often televised —**e·van'ge·lism'** *n.*
- e·van'ge·lize'** (-liz') *vt. -lized', -liz'ing* to convert to Christianity —*vi.* to preach the gospel
- e·vap·o·rate** (ē vap'ə rāt') *vt. -rat'ed, -rat'ing* [*< L e-, out, from + vaporare, emit vapor*] 1 to change (a liquid or solid) into vapor 2 to remove moisture from (milk, etc.), as by heating, so as to get a concentrated product —*vi.* 1 to become vapor 2 to give off vapor 3 to disappear like vapor; vanish —**e·vap'o·ra'tion** *n.* —**e·vap'o·ra'tor** *n.*
- e·va·sion** (ē vā'zhən, i-) *n.* 1 an evading; specif., an avoiding of a duty, question, etc. by deceit or cleverness 2 a way of doing this; subterfuge
- e·va'sive** (-siv) *adj.* 1 tending or seeking to evade 2 elusive —**e·va'sive·ly** *adv.* —**e·va'sive·ness** *n.*
- eve** (ēv) *n.* [*< OE æfen, evening*] 1 [Old Poet.] evening 2 [*often E-*] the evening or day before a holiday 3 the period just prior to some event
- Eve** (ēv) *n.* Bible the first woman, Adam's wife
- e·ven** (ē'vən) *adj.* [*OE efne*] 1 flat; level; smooth 2 not varying; constant [*an even tempo*] 3 calm; tranquil [*an even temper*] 4 in the same plane or line [*even with the rim*] 5 owing and being owed nothing 6 equal in number, quantity, etc. 7 exactly divisible by two 8 exact [*an even mile*] 9 revenged for a wrong, etc. —*adv.* 1 however improbable; indeed 2 exactly; just [*it happened even as I expected*] 3 still; yet [*he's even better*] —*vt., vi.* to make or become even —**even if though** —**e'ven·ly** *adv.* —**e'ven·ness** *n.*
- e'ven·hand'ed** *adj.* impartial; fair
- eve·ning** (ēv'nɪŋ) *n.* [*< OE æfnung*] 1 the last part of the day and early part of night 2 [Dial.] afternoon
- even' money** equal stakes in betting, with no odds
- e·vent** (ē vent') *n.* [*< L e-, out + venire, come*] 1 an occurrence, esp. when important 2 a particular contest in a program of sports 3 any organized activity, celebration, etc. —**in any event** no matter what happens; anyway —**in the event of** in case of —**in the event that** if it should happen that
- e'ven·tem'pered** *adj.* not quickly angered; calm
- e·vent'ful** *adj.* 1 full of outstanding events 2 having an important outcome —**e·vent'ful·ly** *adv.*
- e·ven·tide** (ē'vən tīd') *n.* [Archaic] evening
- e·ven·tu·al** (ē ven'chōō əl) *adj.* ultimate; final —**e·ven'tu·al·ly** *adv.*
- e·ven'tu·al'i·ty** (-al'ə tē) *n., pl. -ties* a possible event or outcome
- e·ven'tu·ate'** (-āt') *vi. -at'ed, -at'ing* to happen in the end; result
- ev·er** (ev'ər) *adv.* [*< OE æfre*] 1 always [*ever the same*] 2 at any time [*do you ever see her?*] 3 at all; by any chance [*how can I ever repay you?*] —**ever so** [Inf.] very
- Ev·er·est** (ev'ər ist, ev'rist), Mount peak of the Himalayas: highest known mountain in the world: 29,035 ft.
- ev'er·glade'** *n.* marshy land
- ev'er·green'** *adj.* having green leaves

all year long, as most conifers —*n.* an evergreen plant or tree

ev'er-last'ing *adj.* lasting forever; eternal —*n.* eternity

ev'er-more' *adv.* [Archaic] forever; constantly

ev·er·y (ev'rē) *adj.* [OE *æfre ælc*, lit., ever each] 1 each, individually and separately 2 the greatest possible [to make every effort] 3 each interval [take a pill every three hours] —**every now and then** occasionally: also [Inf.] every so often —**every other** each alternate, as the first, third, fifth, etc. —**every which way** [Inf.] in complete disorder

ev'er-y·bod'y (-bād'ē, -bud'ē) *pron.* every person; everyone

ev'er-y·day' *adj.* 1 daily 2 suitable for ordinary days [*everyday shoes*] 3 usual; common

ev'er-y-one' *pron.* every person

every one every person or thing of those named [*every one of the boys*]

ev'er-y·thing' *pron.* every thing; all

ev'er-y·where' *adv.* in or to every place

e·vict (ē vikt') *vt.* [L *e-*, intens. + *vincere*, conquer] to remove (a tenant) by legal procedure —**e·vic'tion** *n.*

ev·i·dence (ev'ə dəns) *n.* 1 something that makes another thing evident; sign 2 a statement of a witness, an object, etc. bearing on or establishing the point in question in a court of law —*vt.* -denced, -denc-ing to make evident —**in evidence** plainly seen

ev·i·dent (ev'ə dənt) *adj.* [L *e-*, from + *videre*, see] easy to see or perceive; clear —**ev'i·dent·ly** *adv.*

e·vil (ē'vəl) *adj.* [OE *yfel*] 1 morally bad or wrong; wicked 2 harmful; injurious 3 unlucky; disastrous —*n.* 1 wickedness; sin 2 anything that causes harm, pain, etc. —**e'vil·ly** *adv.*

e'vil·do'er *n.* one who does evil —**e'vil·do'ing** *n.*

e·vince (ē vins') *vt.* **e·vinced'**, **e·vinc'ing** [L *e-*, intens. + *vincere*, conquer] to show plainly; make clear

e·vis·cer·ate (ē vis'ər āt') *vt.* -at'ed, -at'ing [L *e-*, out + *viscera*, viscera] 1 to remove the entrails from 2 to deprive of an essential part —**e·vis'cer·a'tion** *n.*

e·voke (ē vōk') *vt.* **e·voked'**, **e·vok'ing** [L *e-*, out, from + *vox*, voice] 1 to call forth 2 to elicit (a reaction, etc.) —**ev·o·ca·tion** (ev'ə kā'shən, ē'vō-) *n.*

ev·o·lu·tion (ev'ə lōō'shən) *n.* [see fol.] 1 an unfolding; process of development or change 2 a thing evolved 3 a movement that is part of a series 4 *Biol.* a) the development of a species, organism, etc. from its original to its present state b) the theory that all species developed from earlier forms —**ev'o·lu'tion·ar'y** *adj.* —**ev'o·lu'tion·ist** *n.*

e·volve (ē vālv', -vōlv') *vt., vi.* **e·volved'**, **e·volv'ing** [L *e-*, out + *volvere*, to roll] 1 to develop gradually 2 to develop by evolution

ewe (yōō) *n.* [OE *eowu*] a female sheep

ew·er (yōō'ər) *n.* [L *aqua*, water] a

large, wide-mouthed water pitcher

ex *abbrev.* 1 example 2 exchange

ex- [L *ex-* or *ex-*] *prefix* 1 a) from, out [*expel*] b) beyond c) thoroughly d) upward 2 former, previous [*ex-president*]

ex·ac·er·bate (eg zas'ər bāt') *vt.* -bat'ed, -bat'ing [L *ex-*, intens. + *acerbus*, bitter] 1 to aggravate (pain, annoyance, etc.) 2 to exasperate; annoy; irritate —**ex·ac'er·ba'tion** *n.*

ex·act (eg zakt') *adj.* [L *ex-*, out + *agere*, to do] 1 characterized by or requiring accuracy; methodical; correct 2 without variation; precise —*vt.* 1 to extort 2 to demand; require —**ex·act'ly** *adv.* —**ex·act'ness** *n.*

ex·act'ing *adj.* 1 making severe demands; strict 2 demanding great care, effort, etc.; arduous —**ex·act'ing·ly** *adv.*

ex·ac·tion (eg zak'shən) *n.* 1 an exacting 2 an extortion 3 an exacted fee, tax, etc.

ex·ac'ti·tude' (-tə tōōd') *n.* [Fr] the quality of being exact; accuracy

ex·ag·ger·ate (eg zaj'ər āt') *vt., vi.* -at'ed, -at'ing [L *ex-*, out + *agger*, a heap] to think or tell of (something) as greater than it is; overstate —**ex·ag'ger·a'tion** *n.* —**ex·ag'ger·a'tive** *adj.* —**ex·ag'ger·a'tor** *n.*

ex·alt (eg zōlt') *vt.* [L *ex-*, up + *altus*, high] 1 to raise in status, dignity, etc. 2 to praise; glorify 3 to fill with joy, pride, etc.; elate —**ex·al·ta·tion** (eg'zōl tā'shən) *n.*

ex·am·i·na·tion (eg zam'ə nā'shən) *n.* 1 an examining or being examined 2 a set of questions asked in testing: also **ex·am'**

ex·am·ine (eg zam'ən) *vt.* -ined, -in-ing [L *examinare*, weigh] 1 to look at critically or methodically; investigate; inspect 2 to test by questioning —**ex·am'in·er** *n.*

ex·am·ple (eg zam'pəl) *n.* [L *eximere*, take out] 1 something selected to show the character of the rest; sample 2 a case that serves as a warning 3 a model; pattern 4 an instance that illustrates a principle

ex·as·per·ate (eg zas'pər āt') *vt.* -at'ed, -at'ing [L *ex-*, out + *asper*, rough] to irritate; anger; vex —**ex·as'per·a'tion** *n.*

ex·ca·vate (eks'kə vāt') *vt.* -vat'ed, -vat'ing [L *ex-*, out + *cavus*, hollow] 1 to make a hole or cavity in 2 to form (a tunnel, etc.) by hollowing out 3 to unearth 4 to dig out (earth, soil, etc.) —**ex'ca·va'tion** *n.* —**ex'ca·va'tor** *n.*

ex·ceed (ek sēd') *vt.* [L *ex-*, out + *cedere*, to go] 1 to go or be beyond (a limit, etc.) 2 to surpass

ex·ceed'ing *adj.* surpassing; extreme —**ex·ceed'ing·ly** *adv.*

ex·cel (ek sel') *vi., vt.* -celled', -cel'ling [L *ex-*, out of + *cellere*, to rise] to be better or greater than (another or others)

ex·cel·lence (ek'sə ləns) *n.* 1 the fact or state of excelling; superiority 2 a particular virtue

ex'cel·len·cy (-lən sē) *n., pl. -cies* 1 [E-] a title of honor for certain dignitaries 2

ex-cel-lent (ek'sə lənt) *adj.* [see EXCEL] outstandingly good of its kind; of exceptional merit —**ex-cel-lent-ly** *adv.*

ex-cel-si-or (eks sel'sē ōr'; *for n.* ek sel'sē ər) *interj.* [see EXCEL] always upward! —*n.* long, thin wood shavings used for packing

ex-cept (ek sept') *vt.* [< L *ex-*, out + *capere*, to take] to leave out or take out; exclude —*prep.* leaving out; but —*conj.* [Inf.] were it not that; only —**except for** if it were not for

ex-cept'ing *prep., conj.* EXCEPT

ex-cep'tion *n.* 1 an excepting 2 *a)* a case to which a rule does not apply *b)* a person or thing different from others of the same class 3 an objection —**take exception** 1 to object 2 feel offended

ex-cep'tion-a-ble *adj.* liable to exception; open to objection

ex-cep'tion-al *adj.* 1 unusual; esp., unusually good 2 needing special education, as because mentally gifted or mentally handicapped —**ex-cep'tion-al-ly** *adv.*

ex-cerpt (ek surpt'; *for n.* ek'surpt') *vt.* [< L *ex-*, out + *carpere*, to pick] to select or quote (passages from a book, etc.); extract —*n.* a passage selected or quoted; extract

ex-cess (ek ses'; *also, esp. for adj.,* ek'ses') *n.* [see EXCEED] 1 action that goes beyond a reasonable limit 2 an amount greater than is necessary 3 the amount by which one thing exceeds another —*adj.* extra; surplus —**in excess of** more than

ex-ces'sive *adj.* being too much; immoderate —**ex-ces'sive-ly** *adv.*

ex-change (eks chānj') *vt., vi.* -changed', -chang'ing [see EX- & CHANGE] 1 to give or receive (something) for another thing; barter; trade 2 to interchange (similar things) —*n.* 1 an exchanging; interchange 2 a thing exchanged 3 a place for exchanging [a stock exchange] 4 a central office providing telephone service 5 the value of one currency in terms of another —**exchange'a-ble** *adj.*

exchange rate the rate at which one currency can be exchanged for another

ex-cheq-uer (eks chek'ər) *n.* [ME *escheker*, lit., chessboard < OFr *eschekier*: accounts of revenue were kept on a squared board] 1 a national treasury 2 funds; finances

ex-cise¹ (ek'sīz') *n.* [ult. < L *assidere*, assist (in office)] a tax on various commodities, as liquor or tobacco, within a country: also **excise tax**

ex-cise² (ek sīz') *vt.* -cised', -cis'ing [< L *ex-*, out + *caedere*, to cut] to remove by cutting out —**ex-ci'sion** (-sīzh'ən) *n.*

ex-cit-a-ble (ek sīt'ə bəl) *adj.* easily excited —**ex-cit'a-bil'i-ty** *n.*

ex-cite (ek sīt') *vt.* -cit'ed, -cit'ing [< L *ex-*, out + *ciere*, to call] 1 to make active; stir up 2 to arouse; provoke 3 to arouse the feelings of —**ex-ci-ta-tion** (ek'sī tā'shən) *n.* —**ex-cit'ed-ly** *adv.* —**ex-cit'er** *n.*

ex-cite'ment *n.* 1 an exciting or being excited; agitation 2 that which excites

ex-cit'ing *adj.* causing excitement; stirring, thrilling, etc.

ex-claim (ek sklām') *vi., vt.* [< L *ex-*, out + *clamare*, to shout] to cry out; say suddenly and vehemently

ex-cla-ma-tion (ek'sklə mā'shən) *n.* 1 an exclaiming 2 something exclaimed; interjection —**ex-clam-a-to-ry** (ek sklām'ə tōr'ē) *adj.*

exclamation point (or **mark**) a mark (!) used in punctuating to show surprise, strong emotion, etc.

ex-clude (eks klōōd') *vt.* -clud'ed, -clud'ing [< L *ex-*, out + *cludere*, to close] 1 to refuse to admit, consider, etc.; reject 2 to put or force out —**ex-clu'sion** (-klōō'zhən) *n.*

ex-clu'sive (-klōō'siv) *adj.* 1 excluding all others 2 not shared or divided; sole [an exclusive right] 3 excluding certain people, as for social or economic reasons —*n.* something exclusive; specif., a news item distributed by only one news organization —**exclusive of** not including —**ex-clu'sive-ly** *adv.* —**ex-clu'sive-ness** *n.*

ex-com-mu-ni-cate (eks'kə myōō'ni kāt') *vt.* -cat'ed, -cat'ing to exclude from the rights, privileges, etc. of a church —**ex-com-mu-ni-ca'tion** *n.*

ex-co-ri-ate (eks kōr'ē āt') *vt.* -at'ed, -at'ing [< L *ex-*, off + *corium*, the skin] to denounce harshly —**ex-co-ri-a'tion** *n.*

ex-cre-ment (eks'krə mənt) *n.* waste matter excreted from the bowels

ex-cres-cence (eks kres'əns) *n.* [< L *ex-*, out + *crescere*, grow] an abnormal outgrowth or addition

ex-cre-ta (eks krēt'ə) *pl.n.* waste matter excreted from the body

ex-crete (eks krēt') *vt., vi.* -cret'ed, -cret'ing [< L *ex-*, out of + *cernere*, sift] to eliminate (waste matter) from the body —**ex-cre'tion** *n.* —**ex-cre-to-ry** (eks'krə tōr'ē) *adj.*

ex-cru-ci-at-ing (eks krōō'shē āt'īŋ) *adj.* 1 intensely painful; agonizing 2 intense or extreme

ex-cul-pate (eks'kəl pāt') *vt.* -pat'ed, -pat'ing [< L *ex-*, out + *culpa*, fault] to free from blame; prove guiltless —**ex-cul-pa'tion** *n.* —**ex-cul-pa-to-ry** *adj.*

ex-cur-sion (eks kūr'zhən) *n.* [< L *ex-*, out + *currere*, to run] 1 a short trip; jaunt 2 a round trip at reduced rates —*adj.* for an excursion

ex-cur-sive (eks kūr'siv) *adj.* rambling; digressive —**ex-cur'sive-ly** *adv.* —**ex-cur'sive-ness** *n.*

ex-cuse (ek skyōōz'; *for n.,* -skyōōs') *vt.* -cused', -cus'ing [< L *ex-*, from + *causa*, a charge] 1 to apologize or give reasons for 2 to overlook (an offense or fault) 3 to release from an obligation, etc. 4 to permit to leave 5 to justify —*n.* 1 a defense of some action; apology 2 something that excuses 3 a pretext —**excuse oneself** 1 to apologize 2 to ask for permission to leave —**ex-cus'a-ble** *adj.*

exec *abbrev.* 1 executive 2 executor

ex-e-cra-ble (ek'sī krə bəl) *adj.* [see fol.] 1 detestable 2 very inferior

ex'e·crate' (-krāt') *vt.* -crat'ed, -crat'ing [*< L execrare, to curse*] 1 to denounce scathingly 2 to loathe; abhor —**ex'e·cra'tion** *n.*

ex·e·cute (ek'si kyōōt') *vt.* -cut'ed, -cut'ing [*see EXECUTOR*] 1 to carry out; do 2 to administer (laws, etc.) 3 to put to death by a legal sentence 4 to create in accordance with a plan, etc. 5 to make valid (a deed, will, etc.)

ex'e·cu'tion *n.* 1 an executing; specif., a) a carrying out, performing, etc. b) a putting to death by a legal sentence 2 the manner of performing

ex'e·cu'tion·er *n.* one who carries out a court-imposed death penalty

ex·ec·u·tive (eg zek'yōō tiv) *adj.* [*see fol.*] 1 of or capable of carrying out duties, functions, etc. 2 empowered to administer (laws, government affairs, etc.) —*n.* 1 the branch of government administering the laws and matters of business of a nation 2 one who administers or manages matters of business of a corporation, etc.

ex·ec·u·tor (eg zek'yōō tər) *n.* [*< L ex-, intens. + sequi, to follow*] a person appointed to carry out the provisions of a will

ex·e·ge·sis (ek'sə jē'sis) *n., pl. -ses'* (-sēz') [*< Gr ex-, out + hēgeisthai, to lead*] interpretation of a word, passage, etc., esp. in the Bible

ex·em·plar (eg zem'plər, -plär') *n.* [*< L exemplum, a pattern*] 1 a model; pattern 2 a typical specimen

ex·em·pla·ry (eg zem'plə rē) *adj.* [*< L exemplum, a pattern*] serving as a model or example [*an exemplary life*]

ex·em·pli·fy (eg zem'plə fi') *vt.* -fied', -fy'ing [*< L exemplum, example + facere, to make*] to show by example —**ex·em·pli·fi·ca'tion** *n.*

ex·empt (eg zempt') *vt.* [*< L ex-, out + emere, to buy*] to free from a rule or obligation which applies to others —*adj.* freed from a usual rule, duty, etc. —**ex·emp'tion** *n.*

ex·er·cise (ek'sər siz') *n.* [*< L exercere, put to work*] 1 active use or operation 2 performance (of duties, etc.) 3 activity for developing the body or mind 4 a task to be practiced for developing some skill 5 [*pl.*] a program of speeches, etc. —*vt.* -cised', -cis'ing 1 to put into action; use 2 to carry out (duties, etc.); perform 3 to put into use so as to develop or train 4 to exert (influence, etc.) 5 to engage so as to worry, harass, etc. —*vi.* to do exercises

ex·ert (eg zərt') *vt.* [*< L exserere, stretch out*] 1 to put into action 2 to apply (oneself) with great effort

ex·er'tion *n.* 1 active use of strength, power, etc. 2 effort

ex·hale (eks hāl') *vt., vi.* -haled', -hal'ing [*< L ex-, out + halare, breathe*] 1 to breathe out (air) 2 to give off (vapor, etc.) —**ex·ha·la·tion** (eks'hə lā'shən) *n.*

ex·haust (eg zōst') *vt.* [*< L ex-, out + haurire, to draw*] 1 to use up 2 to empty completely; drain 3 to tire out 4

to deal with thoroughly —*n.* 1 the discharge of used steam, gas, etc. from an engine 2 the pipes through which it is released 3 fumes, etc. given off —**ex·haust'i·ble** *adj.*

ex·haus·tion (eg zōs'chən) *n.* 1 an exhausting 2 great fatigue

ex·haus'tive *adj.* leaving nothing out —**ex·haus'tive·ly** *adv.*

ex·hib·it (eg zib'it) *vt.* [*< L ex-, out + habere, to hold*] 1 to show; display 2 to present to public view —*vi.* to put art objects, etc. on public display —*n.* 1 a display 2 a thing exhibited 3 *Law* an object produced as evidence in a court —**ex·hib'i·tor** *n.*

ex·hi·bi·tion (ek'sə bish'an) *n.* 1 an exhibiting 2 that which is exhibited 3 a public showing, as of art

ex'hi·bi'tion·ism' *n.* 1 a tendency to call attention to oneself or show off 2 a tendency to expose oneself sexually —**ex'hi·bi'tion·ist** *n.*

ex·hil·a·rate (eg zil'ə rāt') *vt.* -rat'ed, -rat'ing [*< L ex-, intens. + hilaris, glad*] 1 to make cheerful or lively 2 to stimulate —**ex·hil'a·ra'tion** *n.* —**ex·hil'a·ra'tive** *adj.*

ex·hort (eg zōrt') *vt., vi.* [*< L ex-, out + hortari, to urge*] to urge earnestly; advise strongly —**ex'hor·ta'tion** *n.*

ex·hume (eks hyōōm', eg zyōōm') *vt.* -humed', -hum'ing [*< L ex-, out + humus, the ground*] 1 to dig out of the earth; disinter 2 to bring to light; reveal —**ex'hu·ma'tion** *n.*

ex·i·gen·cy (eks'ə jən sē) *n., pl. -cies* [*< L exigere, drive out*] 1 urgency 2 a situation calling for immediate attention 3 [*pl.*] pressing needs —**ex'i·gent** *adj.*

ex·ig·u·ous (eg zig'yōō əs) *adj.* [*see prec.*] scanty; meager

ex·ile (ek'sil', eg'zil') *n.* [*< L exul, an exile*] 1 a prolonged living away from one's country, usually enforced 2 a person in exile —*vt.* -iled', -il'ing to force (a person) into exile; banish

ex·ist (eg zist') *vi.* [*< L ex-, out + sistere, to set, place*] 1 to have reality or being; be 2 to occur or be present 3 to continue being; live

ex·ist'ence *n.* 1 the act or fact of being 2 life; living 3 occurrence —**ex·ist'ent** *adj.*

ex·is·ten·tial (eg'zis ten'shəl) *adj.* 1 of existence 2 of existentialism

ex'is·ten'tial·ism' *n.* a philosophical movement stressing individual existence and holding that human beings are totally free and responsible for their acts —**ex'is·ten'tial·ist** *adj., n.*

ex·it (ek'sit, eg'zit) *n.* [*< L ex-, out + ire, to go*] 1 an actor's departure from the stage 2 a going out; departure 3 a way out 4 a road leading from an expressway —*vi.* to leave a place —*vt.* to leave (a building, expressway, etc.)

exo- [*< Gr exō*] *prefix* outside, outer, outer part

ex·o·bi·ol·o·gy (eks'ō bī āl'ə jē) *n.* the branch of biology investigating the possibility of extraterrestrial life

ex·o·dus (eks'ə dəs) *n.* [*< Gr ex-, out + hodos, way*] 1 [*E-*] the departure of the

Israelites from Egypt: with *the* 2 [E-] the second book of the Bible, describing this 3 a going out or forth

ex of-fi-ci-o (eks' ə fish' ē ō') [L, lit., from office] by virtue of one's position

ex-on-er-ate (eg zān'ər āt') *vt.* -at'ed, -at'ing [L *ex-*, out + *onerare*, to load] to declare or prove blameless —**ex-on'er-a'tion** *n.*

ex-or-bi-tant (eg zôr'bi tāt) *adj.* [L *ex-*, out + *orbita*, a track] going beyond what is reasonable, just, etc.; excessive —**ex-or'bi-tance** *n.*

ex-or-cise or **ex-or-cize** (eks'ôr siz') *vt.* -cised' or -cized', -cis'ing or -ciz'ing [L *ex-*, out + *horkos*, an oath] 1 to drive (an evil spirit) out or away by ritual prayers, etc. 2 to free from such a spirit —**ex'or-cism** (-siz'am) *n.* —**ex'or-cist** *n.*

ex-o-skel-e-ton (eks'ō skel'ə tən) *n.* any hard, external supporting structure, as the shell of an oyster

ex'o-ther'mic (-thur'mik) *adj.* designating or of a chemical change in which heat is liberated

ex-ot-ic (eg zāt'ik) *adj.* [L *exō*, outside] 1 foreign 2 strangely beautiful, enticing, etc. —**ex-ot'i-cal-ly** *adv.*

exp *abbrev.* experience(d)

ex-pand (ek spand') *vt., vi.* [L *ex-*, out + *pandere*, to spread] 1 to spread out; unfold 2 to increase in size, scope, etc.; enlarge; develop

ex-panse (ek spans') *n.* a large area or unbroken surface; wide extent

ex-pan'si-ble *adj.* that can be expanded: also **ex-pand'a-ble**

ex-pan'sion *n.* 1 an expanding or being expanded; enlargement 2 an expanded thing or part 3 the degree or extent of expansion

expansion bolt a bolt with an attachment that expands as the bolt is turned

ex-pan'sive *adj.* 1 that can expand 2 broad; extensive 3 effusive; demonstrative —**ex-pan'sive-ly** *adv.*

ex-pa-ti-ate (eks pā'shē āt') *vi.* -at'ed, -at'ing [L *ex(s)patiare*, wander] to speak or write at length (*on* or *upon*) —**ex-pa'ti-a'tion** *n.*

ex-pa-tri-ate (eks pā'trē āt'; *for n., -it*) *vt., vi.* -at'ed, -at'ing [L *ex*, out of + *patria*, fatherland] to exile (a person or oneself) —*n.* an expatriated person —**ex-pa'tri-a'tion** *n.*

ex-pect (ek spekt') *vt.* [L *ex-*, out + *spectare*, to look] 1 to look for as likely to occur or appear 2 to look for as proper or necessary 3 [Inf.] to suppose; guess —**be expecting** [Inf.] to be pregnant

ex-pect'an-cy *n., pl. -cies* 1 EXPECTATION 2 that which is expected, esp. on a statistical basis

ex-pect'ant *adj.* that expects; expecting —**ex-pect'ant-ly** *adv.*

ex-pec-ta-tion (ek'spek tā'shən) *n.* 1 an expecting; anticipation 2 a thing looked forward to 3 [also *pl.*] a reason for expecting something

ex-pec-to-rant (ek spek'tə rənt) *n.* [see fol.] a medicine that helps to bring up phlegm

ex-pec'to-rate' (-tə rāt') *vt., vi.* -rat'ed, -rat'ing [L *ex-*, out + *pectus*, breast] to spit —**ex-pec'to-ra'tion** *n.*

ex-pe-di-en-cy (ek spē'dē ən sē) *n., pl. -cies* 1 a being expedient; suitability for a given purpose 2 the doing of what is selfish rather than of what is right or just; self-interest 3 an expedient Also **ex-pe'di-ence**

ex-pe'di-ent *adj.* [see fol.] 1 useful for effecting a desired result; convenient 2 based on or guided by self-interest —*n.* an expedient thing; means to an end

ex-pe-dite (eks'pə dīt') *vt.* -dit'ed, -dit'ing [L *expedire*, lit., to free the foot] 1 to speed up the progress of; facilitate 2 to do quickly

ex'pe-dit'er *n.* one employed to expedite urgent or involved projects: also *sp.* **ex'pe-di'tor**

ex-pe-di-tion (eks'pə dish'ən) *n.* [see EXPEDITE] 1 *a*) a voyage, march, etc., as for exploration or battle *b*) those on such a journey 2 efficient speed —**ex-pe-di'tion-ary** *adj.*

ex'pe-di'tious (-dish'əs) *adj.* efficient and speedy; prompt —**ex'pe-di'tious-ly** *adv.*

ex-pel (ek spel') *vt.* -pelled', -pel'ling [L *ex-*, out + *pellere*, to thrust] 1 to drive out by force 2 to dismiss by authority [*expelled* from college] —**ex-pel'la-ble** *adj.* —**ex-pel'ler** *n.*

ex-pend (ek spend') *vt.* [L *ex-*, out + *pendere*, to weigh] 1 to spend 2 to use up

ex-pend'a-ble *adj.* 1 that can be expended 2 *Mil.* designating equipment (or personnel) expected to be used up (or sacrificed) in service

ex-pend-i-ture (ek spen'di chər) *n.* 1 an expending of money, time, etc. 2 the amount of money, time, etc. expended

ex-pense (ek spends') *n.* [see EXPEND] 1 financial cost; charge 2 any cost or sacrifice 3 [*pl.*] charges met with in doing one's work, etc.

ex-pen'sive *adj.* costly; high-priced

ex-pe-ri-ence (ek spir'ē əns) *n.* [L *experiri*, to try] 1 the act of living through an event 2 anything or everything observed or lived through 3 *a*) training and personal participation *b*) knowledge, skill, etc. resulting from this —*vt.* -enced, -enc'ing to have experience of; undergo

ex-pe'ri-enced *adj.* having had or having learned from experience

ex-per-i-ment (ek sper'ə mənt; *also, and for v. usually, -ment'*) *n.* [L *experimentum*, a trial] a test, trial, action, etc. undertaken to discover or demonstrate something —*vi.* to make, perform, conduct, etc. experiments —**ex-peri-men-ta'tion** (-mən tā'shən) *n.* —**ex-per'i-ment'er** *n.*

ex-per'i-men'tal *adj.* 1 based on or used for experiments 2 designed to test 3 tentative —**ex-per'i-men'tal-ly** *adv.*

ex-pert (eks'pərt) *adj.* [see EXPERIENCE] very skillful —*n.* one who is very skillful or well-informed in some special field —**ex'pert-ly** *adv.* —**ex'pert-ness** *n.*

ex·per·tise (ek'spər tēz') *n.* [Fr] the skill or knowledge of an expert

ex·pi·ate (eks'pē āt') *vt.* -at'ed, -at'ing [L *ex-*, out + *piare*, to appease] to make amends for (wrongdoing or guilt); atone for —**ex·pi·a'tion** *n.* —**ex'pi·a-to'ry** (-ə tōr'ē) *adj.*

ex·pire (ek spīr') *vi.* -pired', -pir'ing [L *ex-*, out + *spirare*, breathe] 1 to exhale 2 to die 3 to come to an end. —**ex·pi·ra-tion** (ek'spə rā'shən) *n.*

ex·plain (ek splān') *vt.* [L *ex-*, out + *planus*, level] 1 to make plain or understandable 2 to give the meaning of; expound 3 to account for —*vi.* to give an explanation —**ex·plain'a·ble** *adj.*

ex·pla·na·tion (eks'plə nā'shən) *n.* 1 an explaining 2 something that explains; interpretation, meaning, etc.

ex·plan·a·to·ry (ek splān'ə tōr'ē) *adj.* explaining or intended to explain

ex·ple·tive (eks'plə tiv) *n.* [L *ex-*, out, up + *plere*, to fill] an oath or exclamation

ex·pli·ca·ble (eks'pli kə bəl, ik splik'ə bəl) *adj.* [see fol.] that can be explained

ex·pli·cate (eks'pli kāt') *vt.* -cat'ed, -cat'ing [L *ex-*, out + *plicare*, to fold] to make clear; explain fully

ex·plic·it (eks plis'it) *adj.* [see prec.] 1 clearly stated or shown; definite 2 outspoken —**ex·plic'it·ly** *adv.*

ex·plode (ek splōd') *vt.* -plod'ed, -plod'ing [orig., to drive off the stage < L *ex-*, off + *plaudere*, applaud] 1 to expose as false 2 to make burst with a loud noise 3 to cause to change suddenly and violently, as from a solid to an expanding gas —*vi.* to burst forth noisily —**ex·plod'a·ble** *adj.*

ex·ploit (eks'plōit'; also, and for *v.* usually, ek sploit') *n.* [see EXPLICATE] a daring act; bold deed —*vt.* 1 to make use of 2 to make unethical use of for one's own profit —**ex'ploi·ta'tion** *n.* —**ex·ploit'a·tive** *adj.* —**ex·ploit'er** *n.*

ex·plore (ek splōr') *vt., vi.* -plored', -plor'ing [L *ex-*, out + *plorare*, cry out] 1 to examine (something) carefully; investigate 2 to travel in (a little-known region) to learn about it —**ex·plo·ra·tion** (eks'plə rā'shən) *n.* —**ex·plor'a·to·ry** (-ə tōr'ē) *adj.* —**ex·plor'er** *n.*

ex·plo·sion (ek splō'zhən) *n.* 1 an exploding 2 the noise made by exploding 3 a noisy outburst 4 a sudden, widespread increase

ex·plo'sive (-siv) *adj.* 1 of, causing, or like an explosion 2 tending to explode —*n.* a substance that can explode, as gunpowder —**ex·plo'sive·ly** *adv.* —**ex·plo'sive·ness** *n.*

ex·po·nent (ek spōn'ənt; also, esp. for 3, eks'pōn'-) *n.* [see EXPOUND] 1 one who expounds or promotes (principles, etc.) 2 a person or thing that is an example or symbol (of something) 3 *Algebra* a symbol placed at the upper right of another to show how many times the latter is to be multiplied by itself (Ex.: $b^2 = b \times b$)

ex·po·nen·tial (eks'pō nen'shəl) *adj.* 1

Math. of an exponent 2 of or increasing by very large amounts, etc.

ex·port (ek spōrt'; also, and for *n.* always, eks'pōrt') *vt.* [L *ex-*, out + *portare*, to carry] 1 to send (goods) to another country, esp. for sale 2 to send (ideas, culture, etc.) from one place to another —*n.* 1 something exported 2 an exporting —**ex'por·ta'tion** *n.* —**ex·port'er** *n.*

ex·pose (ek spōz') *vt.* -posed', -pos'ing [see EXPOUND] 1 to lay open (to danger, attack, etc.) 2 to reveal; exhibit 3 to make (a crime, etc.) known 4 *Photog.* to subject (a sensitized film or plate) to light, etc.

ex·po·sé (eks'pō zā') *n.* [Fr] a public disclosure of a scandal, crime, etc.

ex·po·si·tion (eks'pə zish'ən) *n.* [see EXPOUND] 1 a detailed explanation 2 writing or speaking that explains 3 a large public exhibition or show

ex·pos·i·tor (ek spāz'ət ər) *n.* one who expounds or explains

ex·pos'i·to·ry (-ə tōr'ē) *adj.* of or containing exposition; explanatory

ex post fac·to (eks' pōst fak'tō) [L, from (the thing) done afterward] done afterward, but retroactive

ex·pos·tu·late (ek spās'chə·lāt') *vi.* -lat'ed, -lat'ing [L *ex-*, intens. + *postulare*, to demand] to reason with a person earnestly, objecting to that person's actions —**ex·pos'tu·la'tion** *n.*

ex·po·sure (ek spō'zhər) *n.* 1 an exposing or being exposed 2 a location, as of a house, in relation to the sun, etc. [an eastern exposure] 3 frequent appearance before the public 4 *Photog.* a) the subjection of a sensitized film or plate to light, X-rays, etc. b) a section of a film for one picture c) the time during which such a section is exposed

ex·pound (ek spound') *vt.* [L *ex-*, out + *ponere*, to put] 1 to set forth; state in detail 2 to explain

ex·press (ek spres') *vt.* [L *ex-*, out + *premere*, to press] 1 to squeeze out (juice, etc.) 2 to put into words; state 3 to reveal; show 4 to symbolize; signify 5 to send by express —*adj.* 1 stated; expressed; explicit 2 specific 3 fast, direct, and making few stops [an express bus] 4 marked by speed [an express highway] 5 having to do with an express train, bus, service, etc. —*adv.* by express —*n.* 1 an express train, bus, etc. 2 a) a service for transporting things rapidly b) the things sent by express

ex·pres·sion (ek spresh'ən) *n.* 1 a putting into words; stating 2 a manner of expressing, esp. with eloquence 3 a particular word or phrase 4 a showing of feeling, character, etc. 5 a look, intonation, etc. that conveys meaning 6 a mathematical symbol or set of symbols —**ex·pres'sion·less** *adj.*

ex·pres'sion·ism' *n.* [often E-] a 20th-c. movement in art, literature, etc. seeking to give symbolic, objective expression to inner experience —**ex·pres'sion·ist** *adj., n.* —**ex·pres'sion·is'tic** *adj.*

ex·pres'sive *adj.* 1 that expresses 2 full of meaning or feeling —**ex·**

pres'sive-ly *adv.* —**ex-pres'sive-ness** *n.*
ex-press'ly *adv.* 1 plainly; definitely 2 especially; particularly
ex-press'way *n.* a divided highway for high-speed, through traffic, with grade separations at intersections
ex-pro-pri-ate (eks prō'prē āt') *vt.* -at'ed, -at'ing [*< L ex-, out + proprius, one's own*] to take (land, etc.) from its owner; esp. for public use —**ex-pro-pri-a'tion** *n.*
ex-pul-sion (ek spul'shən) *n.* an expelling or being expelled
ex-punge (ek spunj') *vt.* -punged', -pung'ing [*< L ex-, out + pungerē, to prick*] to blot or strike out; erase
ex-pur-gate (eks'pər gāt') *vt.* -gat'ed, -gat'ing [*< L ex-, out + purgare, cleanse*] to remove (passages considered obscene, etc.) from (a book, etc.) —**ex-pur-ga'tion** *n.*
ex-qui-site (eks'kwi zit, ek skwiz'it) *adj.* [*< L ex-, out + quaerere, to ask*] 1 carefully or elaborately done 2 very beautiful, delicate, etc. 3 of highest quality 4 very intense; keen
ext *abbrev.* extension
ex-tant (eks'tənt, ek stant') *adj.* [*< L ex-, out + stare, to stand*] still existing; not extinct
ex-tem-po-ra-ne-ous (eks'tem'pə rā'nē əs) *adj.* [see fol.] done or spoken with little preparation; offhand —**ex-tem-po-ra-ne-ous-ly** *adv.*
ex-tem-po-re (ek stem'pə rē) *adv., adj.* [*< L ex-, out of + tempus, time*] with little preparation; offhand
ex-tem'po-rize' (-rīz') *vi., vt.* -rized', -riz'ing to speak, perform, etc. extempore; improvise
ex-tend (ek stend') *vt.* [*< L ex-, out + tendere, to stretch*] 1 to make longer; stretch out; prolong 2 to enlarge in area, scope, etc.; expand 3 to stretch forth 4 to offer; grant 5 to make (one-self) work very hard —*vi.* to be extended —**ex-tend'ed** *adj.* —**ex-tend'er** *n.* —**ex-ten'si-ble** (-sten'sə bəl) or **ex-tend'i-ble** *adj.*
extended care nursing care for a limited time after hospitalization
extended family a nuclear family together with other relatives living with them or nearby
ex-ten'sion (-sten'shən) *n.* 1 an extending or being extended 2 range; extent 3 a part forming a continuation or addition 4 an extra telephone connected to the main line
ex-ten'sive (-siv) *adj.* having great extent; vast; far-reaching; comprehensive —**ex-ten'sive-ly** *adv.* —**ex-ten'sive-ness** *n.*
ex-tent (ek stent') *n.* 1 the space, amount, or degree to which a thing extends; size 2 scope; limits 3 an extended space; vast area
ex-ten-u-ate (ek sten'yō āt') *vt.* -at'ed, -at'ing [*< L ex-, out + tenuis, thin*] to make (an offense, etc.) seem less serious —**ex-ten'u-a'tion** *n.*
ex-te-ri-or (ek stir'ē ər) *adj.* [see EXTERNAL] 1 a) on the outside; outer b) to be used on the outside [exterior paint] 2

coming from without —*n.* an outside or outside surface
ex-ter-mi-nate (ek stər'mə nāt') *vt.* -nat'ed, -nat'ing [*< L ex-, out + terminus, boundary*] to destroy entirely; wipe out —**ex-ter-mi-na'tion** *n.*
ex-ter'mi-na'tor (-nāt'ər) *n.* one that exterminates; specif., one whose work is exterminating vermin
ex-ter-nal (ek stər'nəl) *adj.* [*< L externus*] 1 on or of the outside 2 existing apart from the mind; material 3 coming from without 4 superficial 5 foreign —*n.* an outside surface or part —**ex-ter-nal-ly** *adv.*
ex-tinct (ek stɪŋkt') *adj.* [see EXTINGUISH] 1 having died down; extinguished 2 no longer in existence
ex-tinc'tion *n.* 1 an extinguishing 2 a destroying or being destroyed 3 a dying out: said as of a species
ex-tin-guish (ek stɪŋ'gwish) *vt.* [*< L ex-, out + stinguere, extinguish*] 1 to put out (a fire, etc.) 2 to destroy —**ex-tin'guish-er** *n.*
ex-tir-pate (eks'tər pāt') *vt.* -pat'ed, -pat'ing [*< L ex-, out + stirps, root*] to destroy completely —**ex-tir-pa'tion** *n.*
ex-tol or **ex-toll** (ek stōl') *vt.* -tolled', -tol'ling [*< L ex-, up + tollere, to raise*] to praise highly; laud
ex-tort (ek stōrt') *vt.* [*< L ex-, out + torquere, to twist*] to get (money, etc.) from someone by force or threats
ex-tor'tion *n.* 1 an extorting 2 something extorted —**ex-tor'tion-ate** *adj.* —**ex-tor'tion-ist** or **ex-tor'tion-er** *n.*
ex-tra (eks'trə) *adj.* [*< L extra, more than*] more or better than normal, expected, etc.; additional or superior —*n.* an extra person or thing; specif., a) a special edition of a newspaper b) an extra benefit c) an actor hired by the day to play a minor part —*adv.* more than usually; esp., exceptionally
extra- [see EXTERNAL] *prefix* outside, beyond, besides
ex-tract (ek strakt'; *for n.* eks'trakt') *vt.* [*< L ex-, out + trahere, to draw*] 1 to draw out by effort 2 to obtain by pressing, distilling, etc. 3 to deduce, derive, or elicit 4 to select or quote (a passage, etc.) —*n.* something extracted; specif., a) a concentrate [beef extract] b) an excerpt
ex-trac'tion *n.* 1 the act or process of extracting 2 origin; descent
ex-tra-cur-ric-u-lar (eks'trə kə rik'yō lār) *adj.* not part of the required curriculum
ex-tra-dite (eks'trə dīt') *vt.* -dit'ed, -dit'ing [*< L ex, out + traditio, a surrender*] to turn over (an alleged criminal, etc.) to the jurisdiction of another country, U.S. state, etc. —**ex'tra-di'tion** (-dish'ən) *n.*
ex-tra-le-gal (eks'trə lē'gəl) *adj.* outside of legal control
ex'tra-mar'i-tal (-mar'ət'l) *adj.* having to do with sexual intercourse with someone other than one's spouse
ex-tra-ne-ous (ek strā'nē əs) *adj.* [L *extraneus, foreign*] 1 coming from out-

side; foreign 2 not pertinent; irrelevant
—*ex·tra·ne·ous·ly* *adv.*

ex·tra·or·di·nar·y (ek strôrd''n er'ē) *adj.* [*< L extra ordinem, out of order*] 1 not ordinary 2 going far beyond the ordinary; unusual; remarkable

ex·trap·o·late (ek strap'ə lāt') *vt., vi.* -lat'ed, -lat'ing [*see EXTRA- & INTERPO-LATE*] to estimate (something unknown) on the basis of known facts —*ex·trap'o·la'tion* *n.*

ex·tra·sen·so·ry (eks'trə sen'sə rē) *adj.* apart from, or in addition to, normal sense perception

ex'tra·ter·res'tri·al (-tə res'trē əl) *adj.* being, of, or from outside the earth's limits —*n.* an extraterrestrial being, as in science fiction

ex·trav·a·gant (ek strav'ə gənt) *adj.* [*< L extra, beyond + vagari, to wander*] 1 going beyond reasonable limits; excessive 2 costing or spending too much; wasteful —*ex·trav'a·gance* *n.*

ex·trav·a·gan·za (ek strav'ə gan'zə) *n.* [*< It estravaganza, extravagance*] a spectacular theatrical production

ex·treme (ek strēm') *adj.* [*< L exterus, outer*] 1 farthest away; utmost 2 *a)* very great *b)* excessive 3 unconventional or radical, as in politics 4 harsh; drastic —*n.* 1 either of two things that are as different or far as possible from each other 2 an extreme act, state, etc. 3 *Math.* the first or last term of a proportion —*ex·treme'ly* *adv.* —*ex·treme'ness* *n.*

ex·trem'ism' *n.* a going to extremes, esp. in politics —*ex·trem'ist* *adj., n.*

ex·trem·i·ty (ek strem'ə tē) *n., pl. -ties* 1 the outermost part; end 2 the greatest degree 3 great need, danger, etc. 4 an extreme measure: *usually used in pl.* 5 [*pl.*] the hands and feet

ex·tri·cate (eks'tri kāt') *vt.* -cat'ed, -cat'ing [*< L ex-, out + tricae, vexations*] to set free (*from a net, difficulty, etc.*) —*ex'tri·ca'tion* *n.*

ex·trin·sic (eks trin'sik, -zik) *adj.* [*< L exter, without + secus, otherwise*] not inherent —*ex·trin'si·cal·ly* *adv.*

ex·tro·vert (eks'trə vurt') *n.* [*< L extra-, outside + vertere, to turn*] one who is active and expressive rather than introspective —*ex'tro·ver'sion* (-vur'zhən) *n.* —*ex'tro·vert'ed* *adj.*

ex·trude (ek strōd') *vt.* -trud'ed, -trud'ing [*< L ex-, out + trudere, to thrust*] to force out, as through a small opening —*vi.* to be extruded —*ex·tru'sion* *n.*

ex·u·ber·ant (eg zōō'bər ənt) *adj.* [*< L ex-, intens. + uberare, bear abundantly*] 1 growing profusely; luxuriant 2 characterized by good health and high spirits —*ex·u'ber·ance* *n.* —*ex·u'ber·ant·ly* *adv.*

ex·ude (eg zōōd') *vt., vi.* -ud'ed, -ud'ing [*< L ex-, out + sudare, to sweat*] 1 to ooze 2 to seem to radiate [*to exude joy*] —*ex·u·da'tion* (eks'yōō dā'shən, egz'-) *n.*

ex·ult (eg zult') *vi.* [*< L ex-, intens. + saltare, to leap*] to rejoice greatly; glory —*ex·ult'ant* *adj.* —*ex·ul·ta'tion* (eg'zəl tā'shən, eks'al-) *n.*

ex·ur·bi·a (eks ʊr'bē ə) *n.* [*EX- + (SUB)URBIA*] the semirural communities beyond the suburbs, typically lived in by upper-income families —*ex·ur'ban* *adj.* —*ex·ur'ban·ite'* *adj., n.*

eye (ī) *n.* [*OE ēage*] 1 the organ of sight in humans and animals 2 *a)* the eyeball *b)* the iris [*brown eyes*] 3 the area around the eye [*a black eye*] 4 [*often pl.*] sight; vision 5 a look; glance 6 attention; observation 7 the power of judging, etc. by eyesight [*a good eye for detail*] 8 [*often pl.*] judgment; opinion [*in the eyes of the law*] 9 a thing like an eye in appearance or function —*vt.* eyed, eye'ing or ey'ing to look at; observe —*have an eye for* to have a keen appreciation of —*keep an eye on* to look after —*lay (or set or clap) eyes on* to look at —*make eyes at* to look at amorously —*see eye to eye* to agree completely —*with an eye to* paying attention to; considering

eye'ball' *n.* the ball-shaped part of the eye —*vt.* [*Inf.*] to examine or measure visually

eye'brow' *n.* the bony arch over each eye, or the hair growing on this

eye'-catch'er *n.* something that especially attracts one's attention —*eye'-catch'ing* *adj.*

eye'drops' *pl.n.* liquid medicine for the eyes, applied as with a dropper

eye'ful' (-fool') *n.* [*Slang*] a person or thing that looks striking or unusual

eye'glass' *n.* 1 a lens to help faulty vision 2 [*pl.*] a pair of such lenses in a frame; glasses

eye'lash' *n.* any of the hairs on the edge of the eyelid

eye'let (-lit) *n.* 1 a small hole for receiving a cord, hook, etc. 2 a metal ring for reinforcing such a hole 3 a small hole edged by stitching in embroidery

eye'lid' *n.* either of the two folds of flesh that cover and uncover the eyeball

eye'-o'pen·er (-ō'pə nər) *n.* a surprising piece of news, sudden realization, etc. —*eye'-o'pen·ing* *adj.*

eye'piece' *n.* in a telescope, microscope, etc., the lens or lenses nearest the viewer's eye

eye'sight' *n.* 1 the power of seeing; sight 2 the range of vision

eye'sore' *n.* an unpleasant sight

eye'strain' *n.* a tired or strained condition of the eye muscles

eye'tooth' *n., pl. -teeth'* a canine tooth of the upper jaw

eye'wear' *n.* eyeglasses, sunglasses, etc.

eye'wit'ness *n.* one who sees or has seen something happen, as an accident, etc.

ey·rie or *ey·ry* (er'ē, ir'ē) *n., pl. -ries* AERIE

F

f¹ or **F** (ef) *n.*, *pl.* **f's**, **F's** the sixth letter of the English alphabet

f² *abbrev.* **[It]** *Music* **FORTE**²

F¹ (ef) *n.* 1 *Educ.* a grade for failing work or, sometimes, fair or average work 2 *Music* the fourth tone in the scale of C major

F² *abbrev.* 1 Fahrenheit 2 female or feminine 3 folio(s) 4 following 5 franc(s) 6 Friday

F³ *Chem.* symbol for fluorine

fa (fä) *n.* **[< ML]** *Music* the fourth tone of the diatonic scale

FAA *abbrev.* Federal Aviation Administration

fa·ble (fä'bäl) *n.* **[< L fabula, a story]** 1 a fictitious story, usually about animals, meant to teach a moral lesson 2 a myth or legend 3 a falsehood

fa'bled *adj.* 1 mythical; legendary 2 unreal; fictitious

fab·ric (fab'rik) *n.* **[< L fabrica, workshop]** 1 a framework; structure 2 a material, as cloth, made from fibers, etc. by weaving, felting, etc.

fab·ri·cate (fab'ri kät') *vt.* -cat'ed, -cat'ing **[see prec.]** 1 to make, build, construct, etc.; manufacture 2 to make up (a story, lie, etc.); invent —**fab'ri·ca'tion** *n.* —**fab'ri·ca'tor** *n.*

fab·u·lous (fab'yōō lās) *adj.* **[see FABLE]** 1 of or like a fable; fictitious 2 incredible; astounding 3 **[Inf.]** wonderful —**fab'u·lous·ly** *adv.*

fa·cade or **fa·çade** (fä säd') *n.* **[Fr: see fol.]** 1 the front or main face of a building 2 an imposing appearance concealing something inferior

face (fäs) *n.* **[< L facies]** 1 the front of the head 2 the expression of the countenance 3 the main or front surface 4 the surface that is marked, as of a clock, etc., or that is finished, as of fabric, etc. 5 the appearance; outward aspect 6 dignity; self-respect: usually in *lose* (or *save*) *face* —*vt.* **faced**, **fac'ing** 1 to turn, or have the face turned, toward 2 to confront with boldness, etc. 3 to cover with a new surface —*vi.* to turn, or have the face turned, in a specified direction —**face to face** 1 confronting each other 2 very near to: with *with* —**face up to** to face with courage —**in the face of** 1 in the presence of 2 in spite of —**make a face to** grimace —**on the face of** it apparently

-faced (fäst) *combining form* having a (specified kind of) face [*round-faced*]

face'less *adj.* without individuality; anonymous

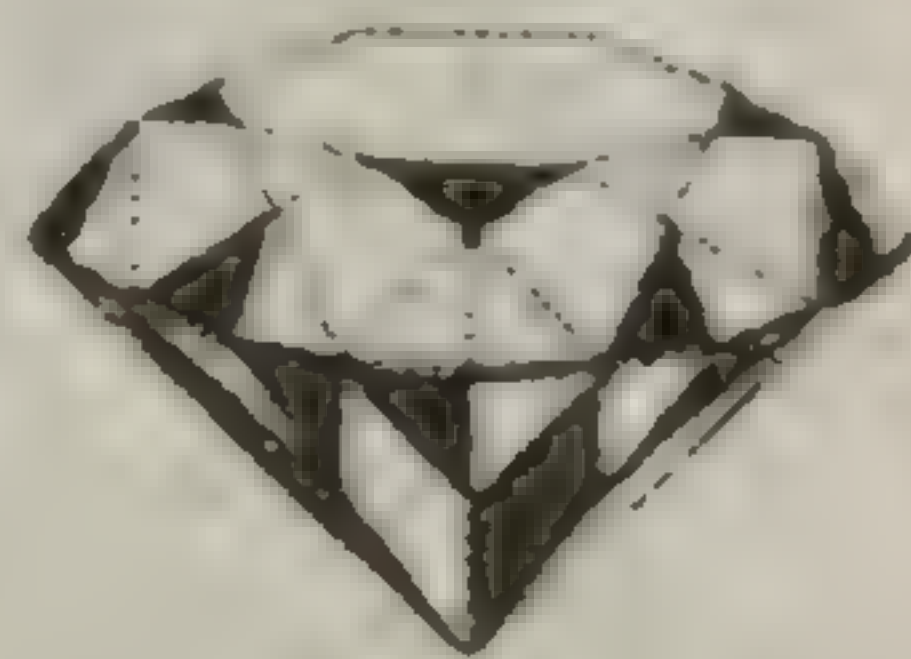
face'-lift *n.* 1 plastic surgery to remove wrinkles, etc. from the face 2 an altering; cleaning, etc., as of a building's exterior Also **face lift** —*vt.* to perform a face-lift on

face'-off *n.* 1 *Hockey* the start or resumption of play when the referee drops the puck between two opposing

players 2 **[Inf.]** a confrontation

face'-sav'ing *adj.* preserving one's dignity or self-respect

fac·et (fas'it) *n.* **[see FACE]** 1 any of the polished plane surfaces of a cut gem 2 any of a number of sides or aspects, as of a personality —*vt.* -et·ed or -et·ted, -et·ing or -et·ting to cut or make facets on



FACETS OF
A GEM

fa·ce·tious (fä sē'shəs) *adj.* **[< L facetus, witty]** joking, esp. at an inappropriate time —**fa·ce'tious·ly** *adv.*

face value 1 the value printed on a bill, bond, etc. 2 the seeming value

fa·cial (fä'shəl) *adj.* of or for the face —*n.* a cosmetic treatment, massage, etc. for the skin of the face

facial tissue a sheet of soft tissue paper used as a handkerchief, etc.

fac·ile (fas'il) *adj.* **[Fr < L facere, do]** 1 not hard to do 2 working or done easily 3 superficial

fa·cil·i·tate (fä sil'ə tāt') *vt.* -tat'ed, -tat'ing **[see prec.]** to make easy or easier —**fa·cil'i·ta'tion** *n.* —**fa·cil'i·ta'tor** *n.*

fa·cil'i·ty (-tē) *n.*, *pl.* -ties 1 ease of doing 2 skill; dexterity 3 **[usually pl.]** the means by which something can be done 4 a building, room, etc. for some activity

fac·ing (fäs'in) *n.* 1 a lining on the edge of a garment 2 a covering of contrasting material on a building

fac·sim·i·le (fak sim'ə lē) *n.* **[< L facere, make + simile, like]** an exact reproduction or copy

fact (fakt) *n.* **[< L facere, do]** 1 a deed, esp. a criminal deed [an accessory before (or after) the *fact*] 2 a thing that has actually happened or is really true 3 reality; truth 4 something stated to be true —**as a matter of fact** in reality: also in *fact*

fac·tion (fak'shən) *n.* **[see prec.]** 1 a group of people in an organization working in a common cause against the main body 2 dissension —**fac'tion·al** *adj.* —**fac'tion·al·ism** *n.*

fac'tious (-shəs) *adj.* causing dissension or faction

fac·ti·tious (fak tish'əs) *adj.* **[see FACT]** forced or artificial

fac·toid (fak'toid) *n.* **[FACT + -OID]** a trivial or useless fact or statistic

fac·tor (fak'tər) *n.* **[< L facere, do]** 1 one who transacts business for another 2 any of the conditions, etc. that bring about a result 3 *Math.* any of the quantities which form a product when multiplied together —*vt.* *Math.* to resolve into factors —**factor in** (or *into*) to include as a factor

fac·to·ry (fak'tə rē; often fak'trē) *n.*, *pl.*

-ries [[see prec.]] a building or buildings in which things are manufactured

fac-to-tum (fak tōt'əm) *n.* [[< L *facere*, do + *totum*, all]] a handyman

fac-tu-al (fak'chōō əl) *adj.* 1 of or containing facts 2 real; actual

fac-ul-ty (fak'əl tē) *n., pl. -ties* [[see FAC-ILE]] 1 any natural or specialized power of a living organism 2 special aptitude or skill 3 all the teachers of a school or of one of its departments

fad (fad) *n.* [[< Brit dial.]] a style, etc. that interests many people for a short time; passing fashion —**fad'dish** *adj.*

fade (fād) *vi.* **fad'ed**, **fad'ing** [[< OFr *fade*, pale]] 1 to lose color, brilliance, etc. 2 to lose freshness or strength 3 to disappear slowly; die out —**vt.** to cause to fade —**fade in** (or **out**) *Film, Radio, TV* to appear (or disappear) gradually

fa-er-ie or **fa-er-y** (fā'ər ē, fer'ē) *n.* [Archaic] 1 fairyland 2 *pl. -ies* a fairy

fag (fag) *vi., vt.* **fagged**, **fag'ging** [[< ?]] to make or become very tired by hard work

fag-ot or **fag-got** (fag'ət) *n.* [[ult. < Gr *phakelos*, a bundle]] a bundle of sticks or twigs, esp. for use as fuel

fag-ot-ing or **fag-got-ing** (fag'ət in) *n.* 1 a hemstitch with wide spaces 2 openwork with crisscross or barlike stitches across the open seam

Fahr-en-heit (fer'ən hīt') *adj.* [[after G. D. *Fahrenheit* (1686-1736), Ger physicist]] designating or of a thermometer on which 32° is the freezing point and 212° is the boiling point of water

fail (fāl) *vi.* [[< L *fallere*, deceive]] 1 to be insufficient; fall short 2 to weaken; die away 3 to stop operating 4 to be negligent in a duty, expectation, etc. 5 to be unsuccessful 6 to become bankrupt 7 *Educ.* to get a grade of failure —**vt.** 1 to be of no help to; disappoint 2 to leave; abandon 3 to neglect: used with an infinitive 4 *Educ.* to give a grade of failure to or get such a grade in —**without fail** without failing (to occur, do, etc.)

fail'ing *n.* 1 a failure 2 a fault —**prep.** without; lacking

faile (fīl, fāl) *n.* [[Fr]] a soft, ribbed fabric of silk or rayon

fail'-safe' *adj.* of an intricate procedure for preventing a malfunction or accidental operation, as of nuclear weapons

fail-ure (fāl'yər) *n.* 1 *a*) a falling short *b*) a weakening *c*) a breakdown in operation *d*) neglect *e*) a not succeeding *f*) a becoming bankrupt 2 one that does not succeed 3 *Educ.* a failing to pass, or a grade showing this

fain (fān) *adj., adv.* [[< OE *fægen*, glad]] [Archaic] glad(ly); willing(ly)

faint (fānt) *adj.* [[see FEIGN]] 1 weak; feeble 2 timid 3 feeling weak and dizzy 4 dim; indistinct —*n.* a state of temporary unconsciousness —**vi.** to fall into a faint —**faint'ly** *adv.* —**faint'ness** *n.*

fair¹ (fer) *adj.* [[< OE *fæger*]] 1 attractive; beautiful 2 unblemished; clean 3

blond [*fair hair*] 4 clear and sunny 5 easy to read [*a fair hand*] 6 just and honest 7 according to the rules 8 moderately large 9 average [*in fair condition*] 10 *Baseball* that is not foul —**adv.** in a fair manner —**fair'ness** *n.*

fair² (fer) *n.* [[< L *feriae*, festivals]] 1 [Historical] a regular gathering for barter and sale of goods 2 a carnival or bazaar, often for charity 3 a competitive exhibition of farm, household, and manufactured products, with various amusements and educational displays 4 a show or convention with exhibits, vendors, etc. [*a science fair*]

Fair-banks (fer'banks') city in EC Alaska: pop. 31,000

fair game a legitimate object of attack or pursuit

fair'-haired' *adj.* 1 having blond hair 2 [Inf.] favorite

fair'ly *adv.* 1 justly; honestly 2 somewhat; moderately

fair shake [Inf.] fair or just treatment

fair'way' *n.* the mowed part of a golf course between a tee and a green

fair-y (fer'ē) *n., pl. -ies* [[< OFr *fée*]] a tiny, graceful imaginary being in human form, with magic powers —**adj.** 1 of fairies 2 graceful; delicate

fair'y-land' *n.* 1 the imaginary land where the fairies live 2 a lovely, enchanting place

fairy tale 1 a story about fairies, magic deeds, etc. 2 an unbelievable or untrue story

fait ac-com-pli (fe tā kōn plē'; E fāt'ə kām'plē') [[Fr]] something done or in effect, making opposition useless

faith (fāth) *n.* [[< L *fidere*, to trust]] 1 unquestioning belief, specif. in God, a religion, etc. 2 a particular religion 3 complete trust or confidence 4 loyalty

faith'ful (-fəl) *adj.* 1 loyal 2 conscientious 3 accurate; reliable —**faith'ful-ly** *adv.* —**faith'ful-ness** *n.*

faith'less (-lis) *adj.* 1 dishonest or disloyal 2 unreliable —**faith'less-ly** *adv.* —**faith'less-ness** *n.*

fa-ji-ta (fā hē'tā) *n.* [[AmSp]] a dish of grilled strips of beef or chicken, often wrapped in a soft tortilla

fake (fāk) *vt., vi.* **faked**, **fak'ing** [[< ?]] to make (something) seem real, etc. by deception —*n.* a fraud; counterfeit —**adj.** 1 sham; false 2 artificial —**fak'er** *n.* —**fak'er-y** *n.*

fa-kir (fə-kir') *n.* [[Ar *faqīr*, lit.; poor]] a Muslim or Hindu itinerant beggar, often one reputed to perform marvels

fa-la-fel (fə lāf'əl) *n.* [[< Ar]] a deep-fried patty of ground chickpeas

fal-con (fal'kən, fōl'-, fāl'-) *n.* [[ult. < L *falx*, sickle]] any bird of prey trained to hunt small game —**fal'con-er** *n.* —**fal'con-ry** *n.*

fall (fōl) *vi.* **fell**, **fall'en**, **fall'ing** [[OE *feal-lan*]] 1 to come down by gravity; drop; descend 2 to come down suddenly from an upright position; tumble or collapse 3 to be wounded or killed in battle 4 to take a downward direction 5 to become lower, less, weaker, etc. 6 to lose power, status, etc. 7 to do wrong; sin 8

to be captured 9 to take on a sad look [*my face fell*] 10 to take place; occur 11 to come by lot, inheritance, etc. 12 to pass into a specified condition [*to fall ill*] 13 to be directed by chance 14 to be divided (*into*) —*n.* 1 a dropping; descending 2 a coming down suddenly from an upright position 3 a downward direction or slope 4 a becoming lower or less 5 an overthrow; ruin 6 a loss of status, reputation, etc. 7 a yielding to temptation 8 autumn 9 the amount of what has fallen [*a six-inch fall of snow*] 10 the distance that something falls 11 [*usually pl., often with sing. v.*] water falling over a cliff, etc. 12 a long tress of hair, added to a woman's hairdo —*adj.* of, in, for, or like autumn —**fall back** to withdraw; retreat —**fall for** [*Inf.*] 1 to fall in love with 2 to be tricked by —**fall in** to line up in formation —**fall off** to become smaller, worse, etc. —**fall on** (or **upon**) to attack —**fall out** 1 to quarrel 2 to leave one's place in a formation —**fall short** to fail to reach, suffice, etc. —**fall through** to fail —**fall to** 1 to begin 2 to start eating

fal-la-cious (fə lă'shəs) *adj.* [see fol.] 1 erroneous 2 misleading or deceptive —**fal-la'cious-ly** *adv.*

fal-la-cy (fal'ə sē) *n., pl. -cies* [< L *fallere*, deceive] 1 a mistaken idea; error 2 a flaw in reasoning

fall-en (fôl'ən) *adj.* that fell; dropped, prostrate, ruined, dead, etc.

fall guy [Slang] one put in a position to take the blame, etc. for a scheme that has miscarried

fal-li-ble (fal'ə bəl) *adj.* [< L *fallere*, deceive] liable to be mistaken, deceived, or erroneous —**fal'li-bil'i-ty** or **fal'li-ble-ness** *n.* —**fal'li-bly** *adv.*

fall'ing-out' *n.* a quarrel

falling star METEOR (sense 1)

fall'off' *n.* a decline

fal-lo-pi-an tube (fə lō'pē ən) [after G. *Fallopian*, 16th-c. It anatomist] [*also F-t-*] either of two tubes that carry ova to the uterus

fall'out' *n.* 1 the descent to earth of radioactive particles, as after a nuclear explosion 2 these particles 3 an incidental-consequence

fal-low (fal'ō) *adj.* [< OE *fealh*] 1 left unplanted 2 inactive

false (fôls) *adj.* fals'er, fals'est [< L *fallere*, deceive] 1 not true; incorrect; wrong 2 untruthful; lying 3 unfaithful 4 misleading 5 not real; artificial —*adv.* in a false manner —**false'ly** *adv.* —**false'ness** *n.*

false'hood' *n.* 1 falsity 2 a lie

fal-set-to (fôl set'ō) *n., pl. -tos* [It, dim. of *falso*, false] an artificial way of singing in which the voice is much higher pitched than normal

fal-si-fy (fôl'sə fī') *vt. -fied', -fy'ing* 1 to misrepresent 2 to alter (a record, etc.) fraudulently —**fal'si-fi-ca'tion** *n.* —**fal'si-fi'er** *n.*

fal'si-ty (-tē) *n.* 1 the quality of being false 2 *pl. -ties* a lie

Fal-staff (fôl'staf'), Sir John in Shakespeare's plays, a fat, witty, boastful knight

fal-ter (fôl'tər) *vi.* [prob. < ON] 1 to move unsteadily; stumble 2 to stammer 3 to act hesitantly; waver —**fal'ter-ing-ly** *adv.*

fame (fām) *n.* [< L *fama*] 1 reputation, esp. for good 2 the state of being well known —**famed** *adj.*

fa-mil-ial (fə mil'yəl) *adj.* of or common to a family

fa-mil-iar (fə mil'yər) *adj.* [see FAMILY] 1 friendly or intimate 2 too friendly; unduly intimate 3 closely acquainted (*with*) 4 common; ordinary —**fa-mil'iar-ly** *adv.*

fa-mil'i-ar'i-ty (-ē er'ə tē) *n., pl. -ties* 1 intimacy 2 informal behavior 3 undue intimacy 4 close acquaintance (*with* something)

fa-mil'iar-ize' (-yər iz') *vt. -ized', -iz'ing* 1 to make commonly known 2 to make (another or oneself) fully acquainted —**fa-mil'iar-i-za'tion** *n.*

fam-i-ly (fam'ə lē, fam'lē) *n., pl. -lies* [< L *familia*] 1 parents and their children 2 relatives 3 all those descended from a common ancestor; lineage 4 a group of similar or related things —*adj.* suitable for a family; specif., wholesome

family planning the regulation, as by birth control methods, of the size, etc. of a family

family practitioner a doctor specializing in the general medical needs of the family

family room a room in a home set apart for relaxation and recreation

family tree a genealogical chart for a given family

fam-ine (fam'in) *n.* [< L *fames*, hunger] 1 an acute and general shortage of food 2 any acute shortage

fam'ish (-ish) *vt., vi.* [see prec.] to make or be very hungry

fa-mous (fā'məs) *adj.* 1 having fame; renowned 2 [*Inf.*] excellent; very good

fa'mous-ly *adv.* 1 in a way, statement, etc. that has become famous 2 very well

fan¹ (fan) *n.* [< L *vannus*, basket for winnowing grain] any device used to set up a current of air for ventilating or cooling —*vt.* **fanned**, **fan'ning** 1 to move (air) as with a fan 2 to direct air toward as with a fan 3 to stir up; excite 4 to strike (a batter) out —*vi.* **Baseball** to strike out —**fan out** to spread out

fan² (fan) *n.* [< FAN(ATIC)] a person enthusiastic about a specified sport, performer, etc.

fa-nat-ic (fə nat'ik) *n.* [< L *fanum*, temple] a fanatic person —*adj.* fanatical —**fa-nat'i-cism'** *n.*

fa-nat'i-cal *adj.* unreasonably enthusiastic; overly zealous —**fa-nat'i-cal-ly** *adv.*

fan-ci-er (fan'sē ər) *n.* a person with a special interest in something, specif. in plant or animal breeding

fan-ci-ful (fan'sə fəl) *adj.* 1 full of fancy; imaginative 2 imaginary; not real —**fan'ci-ful-ly** *adv.*

fan-cy (fan'sē) *n., pl. -cies* [contr. < ME

fantasie, fantasy 1 imagination when light, playful, etc. 2 a mental image 3 a notion; caprice; whim 4 a liking or fondness —*adj.* -*ci-er*, -*ci-est* 1 extravagant [a *fancy* price] 2 ornamental; elaborate [a *fancy* necktie] 3 of superior skill or quality —*vt.* -*ci-ed*, -*cy-ing* 1 to imagine 2 to be fond of 3 to suppose —*fan'ci-ly* *adv.* —*fan'ci-ness* *n.*

fan'cy-free' *adj.* carefree

fan'cy-work' *n.* embroidery, crocheting, and other ornamental needlework

fan-dom (fan'dəm) *n.* fans collectively, as of a sport or entertainer

fan-fare (fan'fer') [Fr, prob. < *fanfaron*, braggart] *n.* 1 a loud flourish of trumpets 2 noisy or showy display

fang (fan) *n.* [OE < *fon*, seize] 1 one of the long, pointed teeth of meat-eating mammals 2 one of the long, hollow teeth through which poisonous snakes inject venom



fan-ta-sia (fan tā'zhə) *n.* a musical composition having no fixed form

fan-ta-size (fant'ə siz') *vt.*, *vi.* -*sized'*, -*siz'ing* to indulge in fantasies or have daydreams (about)

fan-tas-tic (fan tas'tik) *adj.* [see fol.] 1 imaginary; unreal 2 grotesque; odd 3 extravagant 4 incredible —*fan-tas'ti-cal-ly* *adv.*

fan-ta-sy (fant'ə sē) *n.*, *pl.* -*sies* [< Gr *phainein*, to show] 1 imagination or fancy 2 an illusion or reverie 3 fiction portraying highly IMAGINATIVE (sense 2) characters or settings

fan'ta-sy-land' *n.* any imaginary or unreal place

far (fär) *adj.* far'ther, far'thest [OE *feorr*] 1 distant in space or time 2 more distant [the *far* side] 3 very different in quality or nature [far from poor] —*adv.* 1 very distant in space, time, or degree 2 to or from a distance in time or position 3 very much [far better] —as far as to the distance or degree that —by far very much; considerably: also far and away —(in) so far as to the extent that —so far up to this place, time, or degree

far'a-way' *adj.* 1 distant in time, place, etc. 2 dreamy

farce (färs) *n.* [Fr < L *farcire*, to stuff] 1 (an) exaggerated comedy based on broadly humorous situations 2 an absurd or ridiculous action, pretense, etc. —*far-ci-cal* (fär'si kəl) *adj.*

fare (fer) *vi.* fared, far'ing [< OE *faran*, go] 1 to happen; result 2 to be in a specified condition [to fare well] —*n.* 1 money paid for transportation 2 a passenger who pays a fare 3 food

Far East EAST ASIA

fare-well (fer wel'; for *adj.* fer'wel') *interj.* goodbye —*n.* good wishes at parting —*adj.* parting; final [a farewell gesture]

far-fetched (fär'fecht') *adj.* barely believable; strained; unlikely

far'-flung' (-flun') *adj.* extending over a wide area

fa-ri-na (fə rē'nə) *n.* [< L, meal] flour or meal made from cereal grains, potatoes, etc. and eaten as a cooked cereal

far-i-na-ceous (far'ə nā'shəs) *adj.* [see prec.] 1 consisting of or made from flour or meal 2 like meal

farm (färm) *n.* [< ML *firma*, fixed payment] 1 a piece of land (with house, barns, etc.) on which crops or animals are raised: orig., such land let out to tenants 2 any place where certain things are raised [a fish farm] —*vt.* to cultivate (land) —*vi.* to work on or operate a farm —*farm out* to send (work) from an office, etc. to workers outside the office

farm'er *n.* a person who manages or operates a farm

farm'hand' *n.* a hired farm worker

farm'house' *n.* a house on a farm

farm'ing *n.* the business of operating a farm; agriculture

farm'yard' *n.* the yard surrounding or enclosed by farm buildings

far-o (fer'ō) *n.* [Fr *pharaon*, pharaoh: from the picture of a Pharaoh on early French faro cards] a gambling game played with cards

far'-off' *adj.* distant; remote

far'-out' *adj.* [Inf.] nonconformist; esp., avant-garde

far-ra-go (fə rā'gō, -rā'-) *n.*, *pl.* -*goes* [< L *far*, kind of grain] a jumble

far'-reach'ing *adj.* having a wide range, extent, influence, or effect

far-ri-er (far'ē ər) *n.* [< L *ferrum*, iron] [Chiefly Brit.] a blacksmith

far-row (far'ō) *n.* [< OE *feorh*, young pig] a litter of pigs —*vt.*, *vi.* to give birth to (a litter of pigs)

far-sight-ed (fär'sit'id; for 2, -sit'əd) *adj.* 1 planning ahead; provident: also far'see'ing 2 seeing distant objects more clearly than near ones —*far'sight'ed-ness* *n.*

far-ther (fär'ther) *adj.* 1 *compar.* of FAR 2 more distant 3 additional; further —*adv.* 1 *compar.* of FAR 2 at or to a greater distance 3 to a greater degree; further Cf. FURTHER

far-thest (fär'thist) *adj.* 1 *superl.* of FAR 2 most distant —*adv.* 1 *superl.* of FAR 2 at or to the greatest distance or degree

far-thing (fär'thin) *n.* [OE *feorthing*] a former British coin worth ¼ penny

fas-ci-nate (fas'ə nāt') *vt.* -*nat'ed*, -*nat'ing* [< L *fascinum*, a charm] to hold the attention of, as by being very interesting or delightful; charm; captivate —*fas'ci-na'tion* *n.*

fas-cism (fash'iz'əm) *n.* [< It < L *fascēs*, rods bound about an ax, ancient Roman symbol of authority] [sometimes F-] a system of government characterized by dictatorship, belligerent nationalism and racism, militarism, etc. —*fas'cist* *n.*, *adj.*

fash-ion (fash'an) *n.* [< L *factio*, a making] 1 the form or shape of a thing 2

way; manner 3 the current style of dress, conduct, etc. —*vt.* 1 to make; form 2 to fit; accommodate (*to*) —after (or in) a fashion to some extent —*fash'ion-er n.*

fash'ion-a-ble *adj.* 1 stylish 2 of or used by people who follow fashion —*fash'ion-a-bly adv.*

fast¹ (*fast*) *adj.* [OE *fæst*] 1 firm; firmly fastened 2 loyal; devoted 3 nonfading [*fast colors*] 4 swift; quick 5 ahead of time [*a fast watch*] 6 wild, promiscuous, or reckless 7 [Inf.] glib 8 *Photog.* allowing very short exposure time —*adv.* 1 firmly; fixedly 2 thoroughly [*fast asleep*] 3 rapidly

fast² (*fast*) *vi.* [OE *fæstan*] to abstain from all or certain foods —*n.* 1 a fasting 2 a period of fasting

fas·ten (*fas'an*) *vt.* [see **FAST¹**] 1 to attach; connect 2 to make secure, as by locking, buttoning, etc. 3 to fix (the attention, etc.) on something —*vi.* to become fastened —*fas'ten-er n.*

fas'ten-ing *n.* anything used to fasten; bolt, clasp, hook, etc.

fast'-food' *adj.* designating a business that offers food, as hamburgers, prepared and served quickly

fast forward 1 the setting on a VCR, etc. that allows the user to advance the tape or disc rapidly 2 the act or condition of speeding up and advancing —*fast'-for-ward vi., vt.*

fas·tid-i-ous (*fa stid'ē əs*) *adj.* [L *fastus*, disdain] 1 not easy to please 2 daintily refined; oversensitive —*fas·tid'i-ous-ly adv.* —*fas·tid'i-ous-ness n.*

fast'ness *n.* 1 a being fast 2 a stronghold

fast'-talk' *vt.* [Inf.] to persuade with smooth, but often deceitful talk

fat (*fat*) *adj.* *fat'ter, fat'test* [L *fat*] 1 containing fat; oily 2 a) fleshy; plump b) too plump 3 thick; broad 4 fertile [*fat land*] 5 profitable [*a fat job*] 6 plentiful —*n.* 1 an oily or greasy material found in animal tissue and plant seeds 2 the richest part of anything 3 superfluous part —*chew the fat* [Slang] to chat —*fat'ly adv.* —*fat'ness n.*

fa·tal (*fāt'l*) *adj.* 1 fateful; decisive 2 resulting in death 3 destructive; disastrous —*fa'tal-ly adv.*

fa'tal-ism' *n.* the belief that all events are determined by fate and are hence inevitable —*fa'tal-ist n.* —*fa'tal-is'tic adj.* —*fa'tal-is'ti-cal-ly adv.*

fa·tal-i-ty (*fā tal'ə tē, fə-*) *n., pl. -ties* 1 a deadly effect; deadliness 2 a death caused by a disaster or accident

fat'back' *n.* fat from a hog's back, usually dried and salted in strips

fat cat [Slang] a wealthy, influential donor, esp. to a political campaign

fate (*fāt*) *n.* [L *fatum*, oracle] 1 the power supposed to determine the outcome of events; destiny 2 one's lot or fortune 3 final outcome 4 death; destruction

fat-ed (*fāt'id*) *adj.* 1 destined 2 doomed

fate'ful (*-fəl*) *adj.* 1 prophetic 2 significant; decisive 3 controlled as if by fate —*fate'ful-ly adv.*

Fates (*fāts*) *pl.n. Gr. & Rom. Myth.* the three goddesses who control human destiny and life

fa·ther (*fä'thər*) *n.* [OE *fæder*] 1 a male parent 2 an ancestor 3 an originator, founder, or inventor 4 [often *F-*] a Christian priest: used esp. as a title 5 [F-] God —*vt.* to be the father of —*fa'ther-hood' n.* —*fa'ther-less adj.*

fa'ther-in-law' *n., pl. fa'th-ers-in-law'* the father of one's spouse

fa'ther-land' *n.* one's native land

fa'ther-ly *adj.* of or like a father; kind, protective, etc. —*fa'ther-li-ness n.*

fath·om (*fath'əm*) *n.* [L *fæthm*, the two arms outstretched] a length of 6 feet, used as a nautical unit of depth or length —*vt.* 1 to measure the depth of 2 to understand thoroughly —*fath'om-a-ble adj.* —*fath'om-less adj.*

fa·tigue (*fə tēg'*) *n.* [Fr < L *fatigare*, to weary] 1 exhaustion; weariness 2 [*pl.*] soldiers' work clothing 3 the tendency of a metal, etc. to crack under continued stress —*vt., vi. -tighed', -tigu'ing* to tire out

fat·so (*fat'sō*) *n., pl. -sos or -soes* [Slang] a fat person

fat·ten (*fat'n*) *vt., vi.* to make or become fat (in various senses)

fat'ty *adj. -ti-er, -ti-est* 1 of or containing fat 2 like fat; greasy

fatty acid any of a group of organic acids in animal or vegetable fats and oils

fat·u·ous (*fach'ō əs*) *adj.* [L *fatuus*] complacently stupid; foolish —*fa·tu-i-ty* (*fə tōō'ə tē*) *n.* —*fat'u-ous-ly adv.* —*fat'u-ous-ness n.*

fau·cet (*fô'sit*) *n.* [prob. < OFr *faulser*, to breach] a device with a valve for regulating the flow of a liquid from a pipe, etc.; tap

Faulk·ner (*fôk'nər*), *Wil·liam* (*wil'yəm*) 1897-1962; U.S. novelist

fault (*fôlt*) *n.* [L *fallere*, deceive] 1 something that mars; defect or failing 2 a misdeed or mistake 3 blame for something wrong 4 a fracture in rock strata 5 *Tennis, etc.* an improper serve —*at fault* deserving blame —*find fault (with)* to criticize

fault'find'ing *n., adj.* criticizing

fault'less *adj.* perfect

fault'y *adj. fault'i-er, fault'i-est* having a fault or faults; defective —*fault'i-ly adv.* —*fault'i-ness n.*

faun (*fôn*) *n.* [L *faunus*] any of a class of minor Roman deities, half man and half goat

fau·na (*fô'nə*) *n.* [LL *Fauna*, Roman goddess] the animals of a specified region or time

Faust (*foust*) *n.* a man in legend and literature who sells his soul to the devil for knowledge and power —*Faus'ti-an adj.*

faux pas (*fō pä'*) *pl. faux pas* (*fō päz'*) [Fr, lit., false step] a social blunder

fa·vor (*fä'vər*) *n.* [L *favere*, to favor] 1 friendly regard; approval 2 partiality 3 a kind or obliging act 4 a small gift or

token —*vt.* 1 to approve or like 2 to be partial to 3 to support; advocate 4 to make easier; help 5 to do a kindness for 6 to resemble [*to favor one's mother*] 7 to use gently [*to favor a sore leg*] Brit. sp. *fa'vour* —*in favor of* 1 approving 2 to the advantage of — *fa'vor-er n.*

fa'vor-a-ble adj. 1 approving 2 helpful 3 pleasing —*fa'vor-a-bly adv.*

fa-vor-ite (fā'vər it) *n.* 1 a person or thing regarded with special liking 2 a contestant regarded as most likely to win —*adj.* highly regarded; preferred

fa'vor-it-ism' n. partiality; bias

*fawn*¹ (fôn) *vi.* [*< OE fægen, glad*] 1 to show friendliness by licking hands, etc.: said of a dog 2 to try to gain favor by acting humble, flattering, etc. — *fawn'er n.* —*fawn'ing-ly adv.*

*fawn*² (fôn) *n.* [*< L fetus, progeny*] 1 a deer less than one year old 2 a pale, yellowish brown —*adj.* of this color

fax (faks) *n.* [*< FACSIMILE*] 1 the electronic sending (as over a telephone line) and reproduction of pictures, print, etc. 2 a reproduction made in this way —*vt.* to send by fax

fay (fā) *n.* [*see FATE*] a fairy

faze (fāz) *vt.* *fazed, faz'ing* [*< OE fesian, to drive*] to disturb; disconcert

FBI *abbrev.* Federal Bureau of Investigation

FCC *abbrev.* Federal Communications Commission

FDA *abbrev.* Food and Drug Administration

FDIC *abbrev.* Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

Fe [*L ferrum*] *Chem. symbol for iron*

fe-al-ty (fē'al tē) *n., pl. -ties* [*< L fidelitas, fidelity*] loyalty, esp. as owed to a feudal lord

fear (fir) *n.* [*< OE fæx, sudden attack*] 1 anxiety caused by real or possible danger, pain, etc.; fright 2 awe; reverence 3 apprehension; concern 4 a cause for fear —*vt., vi.* 1 to be afraid (of) 2 to be in awe (of) 3 to expect with misgiving [*I fear it will rain*] —*fear'less adj.* — *fear'less-ly adv.*

fear'ful (-fəl) *adj.* 1 causing, feeling, or showing fear 2 [*Inf.*] very bad, great, etc. —*fear'ful-ly adv.* —*fear'ful-ness n.*

fear'some adj. causing fear; frightful

fea-si-ble (fē'zə bəl) *adj.* [*< OFr faire, to do*] 1 capable of being done; possible 2 likely; probable 3 suitable —*fea'si-bil'i-ty n.* —*fea'si-bly adv.*

feast (fēst) *n.* [*< L festus, festal*] 1 a religious festival 2 a rich and elaborate meal; banquet —*vi.* to have a feast —*vt.* 1 to entertain at a feast 2 to delight [*to feast one's eyes on a sight*]

feat (fēt) *n.* [*< L factum, a deed*] a deed of unusual daring or skill; exploit

feath-er (feth'ər) *n.* [*OE fether*] any of the soft, light growths covering the body of a bird —*vt.* 1 to provide or adorn with feathers 2 to turn (an oar or propeller blade) so that the edge is foremost —*feather in one's cap* a dis-

tingtive achievement —*feath'er-y adj.*

feath'er-bed'ding n. the practice of limiting output or requiring extra, standby workers

feath'er-weight' n. 1 a boxer with a maximum weight of 126 pounds 2 any person or thing of light weight or small size

fea-ture (fē'chər) *n.* [*< L facere, to make*] 1 *a*) [*pl.*] facial form or appearance *b*) any of the parts of the face 2 a distinct or outstanding part or quality of something 3 a special attraction, sale item, newspaper article, etc. 4 a film running more than 34 minutes — *vt. -tured, -tur-ing* to make a feature of —*vi.* to have a prominent part — *fea'ture-less adj.*

fe-brile (fē'brəl, feb'rəl) *adj.* [*< L febris, FEVER*] feverish

Feb·ru·ar-y (feb'rō er'ē, feb'yō-) *n., pl. -ies or -ys* [*< L Februarius (mensis), orig. month of expiation*] the second month of the year, having 28 days (or 29 days in leap years): abbrev. **Feb.**

fe-ces (fē'sēz') *pl.n.* [*< L faeces, dregs*] excrement —*fe'cal* (-kəl) *adj.*

feck-less (fek'lis) *adj.* [*Scot < feck, effect + -LESS*] 1 weak; ineffective 2 irresponsible —*feck'less-ly adv.*

fe-cund (fē'kənd, fek'ənd) *adj.* [*< L fecundus*] fertile; productive —*fe-cun-di-ty* (fē kun'də tē) *n.*

fe-cun-date (fē'kən dāt', fek'an-) *vt. -dat'ed, -dat'ing* 1 to make fecund 2 to fertilize

fed (fed) *vt., vi. pt. & pp. of FEED* —*fed up* [*Inf.*] having had enough to become disgusted, bored, etc.

Fed *abbrev.* 1 Federal 2 Federation

fed-a-yeen (fed'ä yēn') *pl.n.* [*Ar fidā'iyīn, sacrificers*] Arab guerrillas

fed-er-al (fed'ər əl) *adj.* [*< L foedus, a league*] 1 designating or of a union of states, etc. in which each member subordinates its power to a central authority 2 *a*) designating or of a central government in such a union *b*) [*often F-*] designating or of the central government of the U.S. 3 [*F-*] of or supporting a former U.S. political party (**Federalist Party**) which favored a strong centralized government 4 [*F-*] of or supporting the Union in the Civil War —*n.* [*F-*] a supporter or soldier of the Union in the Civil War —*fed'er-al-ism' n.* —*fed'er-al-ist adj., n.* —*fed'er-al-ly adv.*

fed'er-al-ize' (-iz') *vt. -ized', -iz'ing* 1 to unite (states, etc.) in a federal union 2 to put under federal authority —*fed'er-al-i-za'tion n.*

fed-er-ate (fed'ər āt') *vt., vi. -at'ed, -at'ing* to unite in a federation

fed-er-a-tion (fed'ər ā'shən) *n.* [*see FEDERAL*] 1 a union of states, groups, etc. in which each subordinates its power to that of the central authority 2 a federated organization

fe-do-ra (fə dôr'ə) *n.* [*Fr*] a soft felt hat worn by men

fee (fē) *n.* [*ult < Gmc*] a charge for professional services, licenses, etc.

fee-ble (fē'bəl) *adj. -bler, -blest* [*< L flere, weep*] 1 weak; infirm [*a feeble old man*] 2 without force or effectiveness

[a feeble attempt] —**fee'ble-ness** *n.* —**fee'bly** *adv.*

feed (fēd) *vt.* **fed**, **feed'ing** [*< OE foda, food*] 1 to give food to 2 to provide something necessary for the growth, operation, etc. of 3 to gratify [to feed one's vanity] —*vi.* to eat: said esp. of animals —*n.* 1 food for animals; fodder 2 *a*) the material fed into a machine *b*) the part of the machine supplying this material 3 *Radio, TV* a transmission sent by a network, etc. to individual stations for broadcast —**feed'er** *n.*

feed'back *n.* 1 the transfer of part of the output back to the input, as of electricity or information 2 a response

feed'stock *n.* raw material for industrial processing

feel (fēl) *vt.* **felt**, **feel'ing** [*OE felan*] 1 to touch; examine by handling 2 to be aware of through physical sensation 3 to experience (an emotion or condition); be affected by 4 to be aware of 5 to think or believe —*vi.* 1 to have physical sensation 2 to appear to be to the senses [it feels warm] 3 to grope 4 to be aware of being [I feel sad] 5 to be moved to sympathy, pity, etc. (*for*) —*n.* 1 the act of feeling 2 the sense of touch 3 the nature of a thing as perceived through touch 4 an instinctive ability or appreciation [a feel for politics] —**feel like** [*Inf.*] to have a desire for —**feel one's way** to advance cautiously —**feel out** to try cautiously to find out the opinions of (someone) —**feel up to** [*Inf.*] to feel capable of

feel'er *n.* 1 a specialized organ of touch in an animal or insect, as an antenna 2 a cautious remark, offer, etc. made to learn more about something

feel'ing *n.* 1 the sense of touch 2 the ability to experience physical sensation 3 an awareness; sensation 4 an emotion 5 [*pl.*] sensibilities [hurt feelings] 6 sympathy; pity 7 an opinion or sentiment

fee simple absolute and unrestricted ownership of real property

feet (fēt) *n. pl.* of FOOT

feign (fān) *vt., vi.* [*< L fingere, to shape*] 1 to make up (an excuse, etc.) 2 to pretend; dissemble

feint (fānt) *n.* [*see prec.*] a pretended attack intended to take the opponent off guard, as in boxing —*vi., vt.* to deliver (such an attack)

feist-y (fis'tē) *adj.* -i-er, -i-est [*< Norw fisa, to puff + -y²*] [*Inf. or Dial.*] full of spirit; specif., quarrelsome, lively, spunky, etc. —**feist'i-ly** *adv.* —**feist'i-ness** *n.*

feld-spar (feld'spär') *n.* [*< Ger feld, field + spath, a mineral*] any of several hard, glassy minerals

fe·lic·i·tate (fə lis'i tāt') *vt.* -tat'ed, -tat'ing [*< L felix, happy*] to wish happiness to; congratulate —**fe·lic'i·ta'tion** *n.* —**fe·lic'i·ta'tor** *n.*

fe·lic'i·tous (-təs) *adj.* [*< fol.*] used or expressed in a way suitable to the occasion; appropriate

fe·lic'i·ty (-tē) *n., pl.* -ties [*< L felix, happy*] 1 happiness; bliss 2 anything producing happiness 3 apt and pleas-

ing expression in writing, etc.

fe·line (fē'līn) *adj.* [*< L feles, cat*] 1 of a cat or the cat family 2 catlike; sly —*n.* any animal of the cat family

fell¹ (fel) *vi., vt. pt.* of FALL

fell² (fel) *vt.* [*OE fellan*] 1 to knock down 2 to cut down (a tree)

fell³ (fel) *adj.* [*< ML fello*] fierce; cruel

fel·low (fel'ō, -ə) *n.* [*Late OE feolaga, partner*] 1 an associate 2 one of the same rank; equal 3 one of a pair; mate 4 one holding a fellowship in a college, etc. 5 a member of a learned society 6 [*Inf.*] a man or boy —*adj.* 1 having the same position, work, etc. 2 associated [*fellow workers*]

fel'low·ship *n.* 1 companionship 2 a mutual sharing 3 a group of people with the same interests 4 an endowment for the support of a student or scholar doing advanced work

fellow traveler a nonmember who supports the cause of a party

fel·on¹ (fel'an) *n.* [*< ML felo, villain*] a person guilty of a felony; criminal

fel·on² (fel'an) *n.* [*ME*] a painful infection at the end of a finger or toe

fel·o·ny (fel'ə nē) *n., pl.* -nies [*< ML felonia, treachery*] a major crime, as murder, arson, etc. —**fe·lo·ni·ous** (fə lō' nē əs) *adj.*

felt¹ (felt) *n.* [*< OE*] a fabric of wool, often mixed with fur, hair, cotton, etc., worked together by pressure, etc. —*adj.* made of felt —*vt.* to make into felt

felt² (felt) *vt., vi. pt. and pp.* of FEEL

fem *abbrev.* 1 female 2 feminine

fe·male (fē'māl') *adj.* [*< L femina, woman*] 1 designating or of the sex that bears offspring 2 of, like, or suitable to women or girls; feminine 3 consisting of women or girls 4 having a hollow part for receiving an inserted part (called *male*): said of electric sockets, etc. —*n.* a female person, animal, or plant

fem·i·nine (fem'ə nin) *adj.* [*< L femina, woman*] 1 of women or girls 2 having qualities characteristic of or suitable to women; gentle, delicate, etc. 3 *Gram.* designating or of the gender of words referring to females or other words with no distinction of sex —**fem'i·nin'i·ty** *n.*

fem'i·nism' (-niz'am) *n.* the movement to win political, economic, and social equality for women —**fem'i·nist** *n., adj.* —**fem'i·nis'tic** *adj.*

fe·mur (fē'mər) *n., pl.* fe'murs or fem·o·ra (fem'ə rə) [*< L, thigh*] the bone extending from the hip to the knee —**fem'o·ral** *adj.*

fen (fen) *n.* [*OE*] an area of low, flat, marshy land; swamp; bog

fence (fens) *n.* [*< ME defens, defense*] 1 a protective or confining barrier of posts, wire mesh, etc. 2 one who deals in stolen goods —*vt.* **fenced**, **fenc'ing** 1 to enclose, as with a fence: with *in, off*, etc. 2 to keep (*out*) as by a fence 3 to sell (stolen property) to a fence —*vi.* 1 to practice the art of fencing 2 to avoid giving a direct reply —**on the fence**

uncommitted or undecided —**fenc'er** *n.*

fenc'ing *n.* 1 the art of fighting with a foil or other sword 2 material for making fences 3 a system of fences

fend (*fend*) *vt.* [*ME fendēn, defend*] to turn aside; ward (*off*) —*vi.* —**fend for oneself** to manage by oneself

fend'er *n.* anything that fends off or protects something else, as the part of an automobile body over the wheel

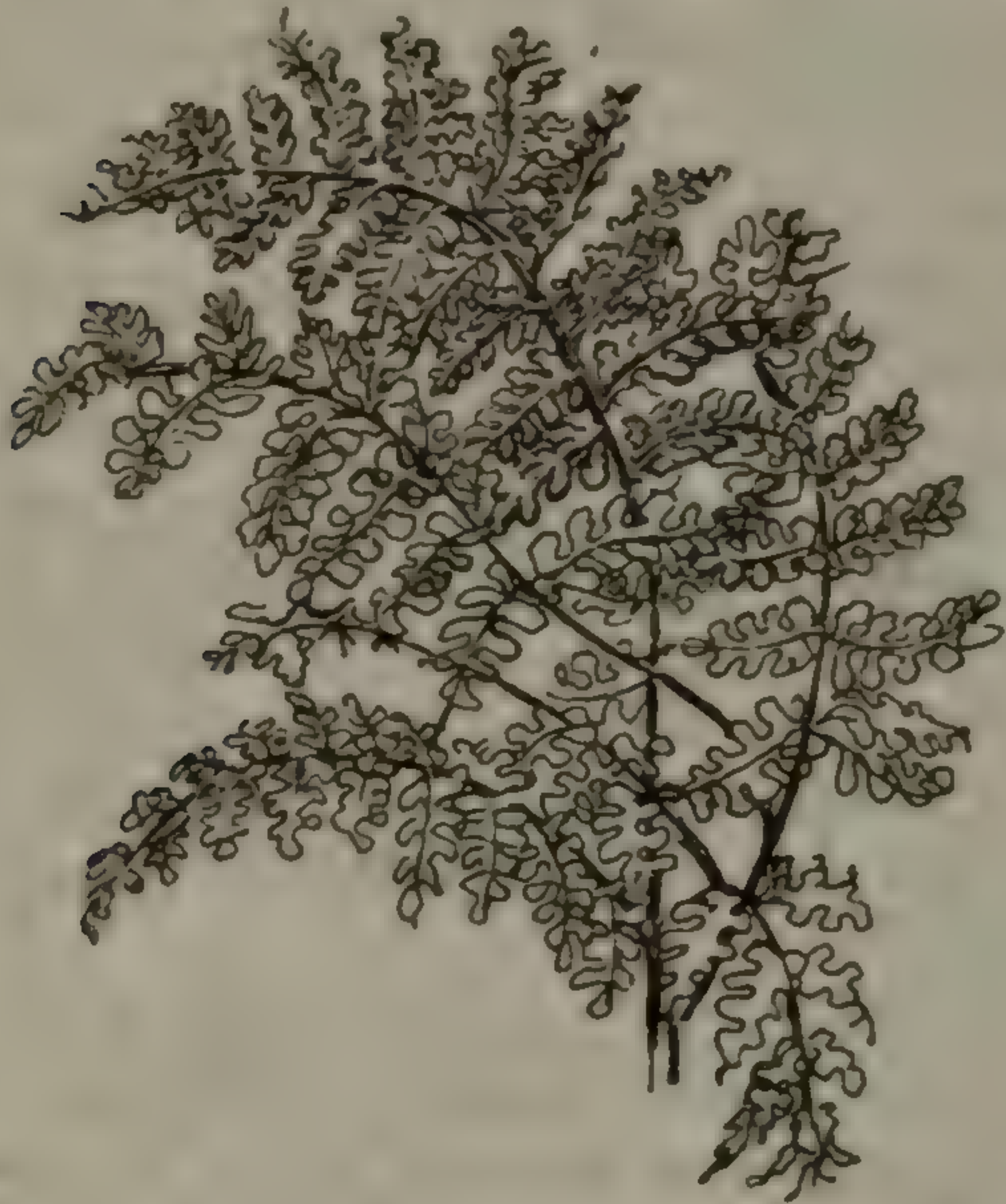
fen-nel (*fen'al*) *n.* [*< L fenum, hay*] a tall herb with aromatic seeds used to flavor foods and medicines

fe-ral (*fir'al, fer'-*) *adj.* [*< L ferus, wild*] 1 untamed; wild 2 savage; fierce

fer-ment (*fər'ment'; for v. fər ment'*) *n.* [*< L fervere, to boil*] 1 a substance causing fermentation, as yeast 2 excitement or agitation —*vt.* 1 to cause fermentation in 2 to excite; agitate —*vi.* 1 to be in the process of fermentation 2 to be excited or agitated; seethe

fer-men-ta-tion (*fər'mən tā'shən*) *n.* 1 the breakdown of complex molecules in organic compounds, caused by the influence of a ferment [*bacteria cause milk to curdle by fermentation*] 2 excitement; agitation

fer-mi-on (*fer'mē än', fər'-*) *n.* [*after E. Fermi, 20th-c. U.S. nuclear physicist*] any of a major subdivision of subatomic particles, including leptons and baryons



FERN

fern (*fərn*) *n.* [*< OE fearn*] any of a large group of nonflowering plants having roots, stems, and fronds, and reproducing by spores

fe-ro-cious (*fə rō'shəs*) *adj.* [*< L ferus, wild*] 1 fierce; savage; violently cruel 2 [*Inf.*] very great [*a ferocious appetite*] —**fe-ro'cious-ly** *adv.* —**fe-roc-i-ty** (*fə rās'ə tē*) *n.*

-fer-ous (*fər əs*) [*< L ferre, to bear*] *suf-fix* bearing, yielding

fer-ret (*fer'ət*) *n.* [*< L fur, thief*] a small European polecat, easily tamed for hunting rats, etc. —*vt.* 1 to force out of hiding with or as if with a ferret 2 to find out by investigation: *with out*

fer-ric (*fer'ik*) *adj.* [*< L ferrum, iron*] of, containing, or derived from iron

Fer-ris wheel (*fer'is*) [*after G. Ferris (1859-96), U.S. engineer*] a large,

upright wheel revolving on a fixed axle and having suspended seats: used as an amusement ride

ferro- [*< L ferrum, iron*] *combining form* 1 iron 2 iron and

fer-rous (*fer'əs*) *adj.* [*< L ferrum, iron*] of, containing, or derived from iron

fer-rule (*fer'al, -ool'*) *n.* [*< L viriae, bracelets*] a metal ring or cap put around the end of a cane, tool handle, etc. to give added strength

fer-ry (*fer'ē*) *vt.* *-ried, -ry-ing* [*OE fer-ian*] 1 to take (people, cars, etc.) across a river, etc. 2 to deliver (airplanes) by flying them 3 to transport by airplane —*n., pl. -ries* 1 a system for carrying people, goods, etc. across a river, etc. by boat 2 a boat used for this: also **fer'ry-boat'**

fer-tile (*fər't'l*) *adj.* [*< L ferre, to bear*] 1 producing abundantly; fruitful; prolific 2 able to produce young, seeds, fruit, pollen, spores, etc. 3 fertilized [*a fertile egg*] —**fer-til-i-ty** (*fər til'ə tē*) *n.*

fer'til-ize' (*-iz'*) *vt.* *-ized', -iz-ing* 1 to make fertile 2 to spread fertilizer on 3 to make (the female cell or female) fruitful by pollinating, or impregnating, with the male gamete —**fer'til-iz'a-ble** *adj.* —**fertil-i-za'tion** *n.*

fer'til-iz'er *n.* manure, chemicals, etc., used to enrich the soil

fer-ule (*fer'al, -ool'*) *n.* [*< L ferula, a whip, rod*] a flat stick or ruler used for punishing children

fer-vent (*fər'vənt*) *adj.* [*< L fervere, to glow*] showing great warmth of feeling; intensely devoted or earnest —**fer'ven-cy** *n.* —**fer'vent-ly** *adv.*

fer-vid (*fər'vid*) *adj.* [*see prec.*] impassioned; fervent —**fer'vid-ly** *adv.*

fer-vor (*fər'vər*) *n.* [*see FERVENT*] great warmth of emotion; ardor; zeal

-fest (*fest*) [*< Ger fest, a feast*] *combining form* an occasion of much or many [*songfest*]

fes-tal (*fes'təl*) *adj.* [*< L festum, feast*] of or like a joyous celebration; festive

fes-ter (*fes'tər*) *n.* [*< L fistula, ulcer*] a small sore filled with pus —*vi.* 1 to form pus 2 to grow more bitter, virulent, etc.

fes-ti-val (*fes'tə vəl*) *n.* [*see fol.*] 1 a time or day of feasting or celebration 2 a celebration or series of performances

fes-tive (*fes'tiv*) *adj.* [*< L festum, feast*] 1 of or for a feast or festival 2 merry; joyous —**fes'tive-ly** *adv.* —**fes'tive-ness** *n.*

fes-tiv-i-ty (*fes tiv'ə tē*) *n., pl. -ties* 1 merrymaking; gaiety 2 a festival 3 [*pl.*] things done in celebration

fes-toon (*fes tōn'*) *n.* [*< It festa, feast*] a wreath or garland of flowers, etc. hanging in a loop or curve —*vt.* to adorn with festoons

fet-a (*cheese*) (*fet'ə*) [*< ModGr < It fetta, a slice*] a soft, white cheese, first made in Greece

fe-tal (*fēt'l*) *adj.* of a fetus

fetch (*fech*) *vt.* [*OE feccan*] 1 to go after and bring back; get 2 to cause to come 3 to sell for

fetch'ing *adj.* attractive; charming

fete or **fête** (fât, fet) *n.* [Fr *fête*: see FEAST] a festival; entertainment, esp. outdoors —*vt.* **fet'ed** or **fêt'ed**, **fet'ing** or **fêt'ing** to honor with a fete

fet·id (fet'id) *adj.* [L *foetere*, to stink] having a bad smell; stinking; putrid — **fet'id·ness** *n.*

fet·ish (fet'ish) *n.* [Port *feitico*] 1 any object believed to have magic power 2 anything to which one is irrationally devoted 3 any nonsexual object that abnormally excites erotic feelings Also **fet'ich** — **fet'ish·ism'** *n.* — **fet'ish·ist** *n.*

fet·lock (fet'lāk') *n.* [ME *fet*, feet] 1 a tuft of hair on the back of a horse's leg above the hoof 2 the joint bearing this tuft

fe·to·scope (fē'tə sköp') *n.* 1 an endoscope used to examine a fetus in the womb 2 a special stethoscope used to listen to the fetal heartbeat

fet·ter (fet'ər) *n.* [OE *fot*, foot] 1 a shackle or chain for the feet 2 any check or restraint —*vt.* 1 to bind with fetters 2 to restrain

fet·tle (fet'l) *n.* [ME *fetlen*, make ready] condition; state [in fine *fettle*]

fe·tus (fēt'əs) *n.*, *pl.* **-tus·es** [L, a bringing forth] the unborn young of an animal, esp. in its later stages and specif., in humans, from about the eighth week after conception until birth

feud (fyōd) *n.* [OE *faide*] a deadly quarrel, esp. between clans or families —*vi.* to carry on a feud; quarrel

feu·dal (fyōd'l) *adj.* [ML *feudalis*] of or like feudalism

feu'dal·ism' *n.* the economic, political, and social system in medieval Europe, in which land, worked by serfs, was held by vassals in exchange for military and other services they give to overlords — **feu'dal·is'tic** *adj.*

fe·ver (fē'vər) *n.* [L *febris*] 1 an abnormally increased body temperature 2 any disease marked by a high fever 3 a restless excitement — **fe'ver·ish** *adj.* — **fe'ver·ish·ly** *adv.*

fever blister (or **soré**) COLD SORE

few (fyō) *adj.* [OE *feawe*] not many; a small number of — *pron.* not many; a small number — **few** and **far** between scarce; rare — **the few** the minority

fey (fā) *adj.* [OE *fæge*, fated] strange or unusual; specif., eccentric, whimsical, etc. — **fey'ness** *n.*

fez (fez) *n.*, *pl.* **fez'zes** [after Fez, city in Morocco] a red, brimless felt hat, shaped like a truncated cone, worn formerly by Turkish men

ff *abbrev.* 1 folios 2 following (pages, etc.)

fi·an·cé (fē'än sã') *n.* [Fr < OFr *fiance*, a promise] a man who is engaged to be married

fi·an·cée (fē'än sã') *n.* [Fr: see prec.] a woman who is engaged to be married

fi·as·co (fē as'kō) *n.*, *pl.* **-coes** or **-cos** [Fr < It] a complete, ridiculous failure

fi·at (fē'ät, fi'at') *n.* [L, let it be done] 1 a decree; order 2 a sanction; authorization 3 any arbitrary order

fib (fib) *n.* [L < ? FABLE] a small or trivial lie —*vi.* **fibbed**, **fib'bing** to tell such a

lie — **fib'ber** *n.*

fi·ber (fi'bər) *n.* [L *fibra*] 1 a threadlike structure that combines with others to form animal or vegetable tissue 2 any substance that can be separated into threadlike parts for weaving, etc. 3 texture 4 character or nature 5 ROUGHAGE — **fi'brous** (-brəs) *adj.*

fi'ber·board' *n.* a building material consisting of fibers of wood, etc. pressed into stiff sheets

Fi'ber·glas' (-glas') *trademark* for fine-spun filaments of glass made into textiles, insulating material, or molded plastic — *n.* this substance

fi'ber·glass' (-glas') *n.* finespun filaments of glass like Fiberglas

fiber optics 1 the science of transmitting light and images, as around curves, through transparent fibers 2 such fibers — **fi'ber·op'tic** or **fiber optic** *adj.*

fi·bril·la·tion (fib'ri lã'shən) *n.* [L *fibra*, fiber + -ATION] very rapid contractions of part of the heart muscle, causing irregular heartbeats

fi·brin (fi'brin) *n.* a fibrous, insoluble blood protein formed in blood clots

fi·brin·o·gen (fi brin'ə jən) *n.* [prec. + -GEN] a protein in the blood from which fibrin is formed

fi·broid (fi'broid') *adj.* like or composed of fibrous tissue: said as of a tumor

fi·bro·sis (fi brō'sis) *n.* an excessive growth of fibrous connective tissue in an organ, part, etc.

fib·u·la (fib'yō lə) *n.*, *pl.* **-lae'** (-lē') or **-las** [L, a clasp] the long, thin outer bone of the lower leg — **fib'u·lar** *adj.*

-fic (fik) [L *facere*, make] *suffix* making [terrific]

FICA (fi'kə) *abbrev.* Federal Insurance Contributions Act

-fi·ca·tion (fi kã'shən) [see -FIC] *suffix* a making [glorification]

fich·u (fish'ō) *n.* [Fr] a triangular lace or muslin cape for women, worn tied in front

fick·le (fik'al) *adj.* [OE *ficol*, tricky] changeable or unstable; capricious

fic·tion (fik'shən) *n.* [L *finger*, to form] 1 an imaginary statement, story, etc. 2 *a*) literary narratives, collectively, with imaginary characters or events, specif. novels and short stories *b*) a narrative of this kind — **fic'tion·al** *adj.*

fic'tion·al·ize' (-shə nəl iz') *vt.* **-ized'**, **-iz'ing** to deal with (historical events) in fictional form — **fic'tion·al·i·za'tion** *n.*

fic·ti·tious (fik tish'əs) *adj.* 1 of or like fiction; imaginary 2 false 3 assumed for disguise [a fictitious name]

fic·tive (fik'tiv) *adj.* 1 of fiction 2 imaginary — **fic'tive·ly** *adv.*

fi·cus (fi'kəs) *n.*, *pl.* **fi'cus** [L, fig tree] any of a genus of tropical shrubs, trees, etc. with glossy, leathery leaves

fid·dle (fid'l) [Inf.] *n.* [OE *fithele*] a violin —*vi.* **-dled**, **-dling** 1 to play a fiddle 2 to tinker (*with*) nervously — **fid'dler** *n.*

fid'dle·sticks' *interj.* nonsense!

fi·del·i·ty (fə del'ə tē) *n.*, *pl.* **-ties** [L

fides, faith] 1 faithful devotion to duty; loyalty 2 accuracy of description, sound reproduction, etc.

fidg-et (fij'it) *n.* [*< ME < ?*] a restless or nervous state: esp. in phrase **the fidgets** —*vi.* to move about restlessly or nervously —**fidg'et-y** *adj.*

fi-du-ci-ar-y (fi dōō'shē er'ē) *adj.* [*< L fiducia*, trust] holding or held in trust —*n.*, *pl.* -ies **TRUSTEE** (sense 1)

fie (fi) *interj.* [Archaic] for shame!

fief (fēf) *n.* [Fr: see **FEE**] in feudalism, heritable land held by a vassal

fief'dom (-dəm) *n.* 1 **FIEF** 2 anything under a person's complete control

field (fēld) *n.* [OE *feld*] 1 a stretch of open land 2 a piece of cleared land for crops or pasture 3 a piece of land used for a particular purpose [a landing *field*] 4 any wide, unbroken expanse [a *field* of ice] 5 *a*) a battlefield *b*) a battle 6 a realm of knowledge or work 7 the background, as on a flag 8 *a*) an area for athletics or games *b*) all the entrants in a contest 9 *Physics* a physical quantity specified at points throughout a region of space —*vt.* 1 to stop or catch and throw (a baseball, etc.) 2 to put (a player or team) into active play 3 [Inf.] to answer (a question) extemporaneously —**play the field** to not confine one's activities to one object —**field'er** *n.*

field day an occasion of extraordinary opportunity or highly successful activity

field glasses a small, portable binocular telescope

field goal 1 *Basketball* a shot, made from play, scoring two points or, if from a certain distance, three points 2 *Football* a goal kicked from the field, scoring three points

field guide a handbook for identifying plants, etc., as while hiking

field hand a hired farm laborer

field hockey **HOCKEY** (sense 2)

field marshal in some armies, an officer of the highest rank

field'-test' *vt.* to test (a device, method, etc.) under operating conditions

fiend (fēnd) *n.* [OE *feond*, the one hating] 1 an evil spirit; devil 2 an inhumanly wicked person 3 [Inf.] an addict [a dope *fiend*] —**fiend'ish** *adj.*

fierce (firs) *adj.* fierc'er, fierc'est [*< L ferus*, wild] 1 savage 2 violent 3 intense [a *fierce* embrace] —**fierce'ly** *adv.* —**fierce'ness** *n.*

fi-er-y (fī'ər ē) *adj.* -er-i-er, -er-i-est 1 like fire; glaring, hot, etc. 2 ardent; spirited 3 excitable 4 inflamed

fi-es-ta (fē es'tə) *n.* [Sp *< L festus*, festival] 1 a religious festival 2 any gala celebration; holiday

fife (fif) *n.* [Ger *pfeife*] a small flute used mainly with drums in playing marches

fif-teen (fif'tēn') *adj.*, *n.* [OE *fiftene*] five more than ten; 15; XV —**fif'teenth'** (-tēnth') *adj.*, *n.*, *adv.*

fifth (fifth) *adj.* [*< OE fif*, five] preceded by four others in a series; 5th —*n.* 1

the one following the fourth 2 any of the five equal parts of something; $\frac{1}{5}$ 3 a fifth of a gallon —*adv.* in the fifth place, rank, etc.

Fifth Amendment an amendment to the U.S. Constitution mainly guaranteeing certain protections in criminal cases; specif., the clause protecting persons from being compelled to testify against themselves

fifth column a group of people aiding an enemy from within their own country

fifth wheel a superfluous person or thing

fif-ty (fif'tē) *adj.*, *n.*, *pl.* -ties [OE *fiftig*] five times ten; 50; L —the **fifties** the numbers or years, as of a century, from 50 through 59 —**fif'ti-eth** (-ith) *adj.*, *n.*

fif'ty-fif'ty [Inf.] *adj.* equal; even —*adv.* equally

fig¹ (fig) *n.* [*< L ficus*] 1 *a*) a small, sweet, pear-shaped fruit that grows on a tree related to the mulberry *b*) the tree 2 a trifle [not worth a *fig*]

fig² *abbrev.* 1 figurative(ly) 2 figure(s)

fight (fit) *vi.* fought, fight'ing [OE *feohtan*] to take part in a struggle, contest, etc., esp. against a foe or for a cause —*vt.* 1 to oppose physically or in battle 2 to struggle against 3 to engage in (a war, etc.) 4 to gain (one's way) by struggle —*n.* 1 any struggle, contest, or quarrel 2 power or readiness to fight

fight'er *n.* 1 one that fights 2 a prizefighter 3 a fast, highly maneuverable combat airplane

fig-ment (fig'mənt) *n.* [*< L fingere*, to form] something merely imagined

fig-ur-a-tive (fig'yūr ə tiv') *adj.* 1 representing by means of a figure or symbol 2 not in its literal sense; metaphorical 3 using figures of speech —**fig'ur-a-tive'ly** *adv.*

fig-ure (fig'yər) *n.* [*< L fingere*, to form] 1 an outline or shape; form 2 the human form 3 a person thought of in a specified way [a historical *figure*] 4 a likeness of a person or thing 5 an illustration; diagram 6 a design; pattern 7 the symbol for a number 8 [*pl.*] arithmetic 9 a sum of money 10 *Geom.* a surface or space bounded by lines or planes —*vt.* -ured, -ur-ing 1 to represent in definite form 2 to imagine 3 to ornament with a design 4 to compute with figures 5 [Inf.] to believe; consider —*vi.* 1 to appear prominently 2 to do arithmetic —**figure in** to include —**figure on** to rely on —**figure out** 1 to solve 2 to understand —**figure up** to add; total

fig'ure-head' *n.* 1 a carved figure on the bow of a ship 2 one put in a position of leadership, but having no real power or authority

figure of speech an expression, as a metaphor or simile, using words in a nonliteral sense or unusual way

figure skating ice skating with emphasis on tracing patterns on the ice or, now, performing leaps and spins —**figure skater**

fig-u-rine (fig'yōō rēn') *n.* [Fr] a small

sculptured or molded figure

Fi·ji (fē'jē) *n.* country on a group of islands (Fiji Islands) in the SW Pacific: 7,078 sq. mi.; pop. 715,000

fil·a·ment (fil'ə mənt) *n.* [*< L filum, thread*] a very slender thread or threadlike part; specif., the fine wire in a light bulb or electron tube

fil·bert (fil'bərt) *n.* [*ME filberde*] the edible nut of a hazel tree

filch (filch) *vt.* [*ME filchen*] to steal (usually something small or petty)

file¹ (fil) *vt.* **filed**, **fil'ing** [*< L filum, thread*] 1 to put (papers, etc.) in order for future reference 2 to dispatch or register (a news story, application, etc.) 3 to put on public record —*vi.* 1 to move in a line 2 to make application (for divorce, etc.) —*n.* 1 a container for keeping papers in order 2 an orderly arrangement of papers, etc. 3 a line of persons or things 4 *Comput.* a collection of data stored as a single unit — **file'a·ble** *adj.* —**fil'er** *n.*

file² (fil) *n.* [*OE feol*] a steel tool with a rough, ridged surface for smoothing or grinding —*vt.* **filed**, **fil'ing** to smooth or grind, as with a file

fi·let (fi lā', fil'ā') *n.* [*< OFr: see FILLET*] **FILLET** (*n.* 2) —*vt.* **FILLET**.

fi·let mi·gnon (fi lā'min yōn', -yän') [*Fr, lit., tiny fillet*] a thick, round cut of lean beef tenderloin

fil·i·al (fil'ē əl, fil'yəl) *adj.* [*< L filius, son*] of, suitable to, or due from a son or daughter

fil·i·bus·ter (fil'i bus'tər) *n.* [*< Sp < MDu vrijbouter, freebooter*] 1 the making of long speeches, etc. to obstruct a bill's passage in the Senate 2 a Senator who does this —*vt., vi.* to obstruct (a bill) by a filibuster

fil·i·gree (fil'i grē') *n.* [*< L filum, thread + granum, grain*] lacelike ornamental work of intertwined wire of gold, silver, etc. —*vt.* **-greed'**, **-gree'ing** to ornament with filigree

fil·ing (fil'in) *n.* a small piece scraped off with a file: *usually used in pl.*

Fil·i·pi·no (fil'i pē'nō) *n., pl. -nos* [*Sp*] a person born or living in the Philippines —*adj.* of the Philippines or its people, etc. —**Fil'i·pi'na** (-nə), *pl. -nas, fem.n., adj.*

fill (fil) *vt.* [*OE fyllan*] 1 to put as much as possible into 2 to occupy wholly 3 to put a person into or to occupy (a position, etc.) 4 to supply the things called for in (an order, etc.) 5 to close or plug (holes, etc.) —*vi.* to become full —*n.* 1 enough to make full or to satisfy 2 anything that fills —**fill in** 1 to complete by supplying something 2 to supply for completion 3 to be a substitute —**fill out** 1 to make or become larger, etc. 2 to make (a document, etc.) complete by supplying information —**fill up** to make or become completely full —**fill'er** *n.*

fil·let (fil'it; *for n. 2 & vt., usually fi lā', fil'ā')* *n.* [*OFr filet < L filum, thread*] 1 a thin strip or band 2 a lean, boneless piece of meat or fish —*vt.* to bone and slice (meat or fish)

fill'·in' *n.* one that fills a vacancy or gap, often temporarily

fill'ing *n.* a substance used to fill something, as gold in a tooth cavity

filling station **SERVICE STATION**

fil·lip (fil'ip) *n.* [*< FLIP*¹] 1 an outward snap of a finger from the thumb 2 something that stimulates —*vt.* to strike or toss with a fillip

Fill·more (fil'môr), **Mill·ard** (mil'ərd) 1800-74; 13th president of the U.S. (1850-53)

fil·ly (fil'ē) *n., pl. -lies* [*< ON fylja*] a young female horse

film (film) *n.* [*OE filmen*] 1 a fine, thin skin, coating, etc. 2 a flexible cellulose material coated with an emulsion sensitive to light and used in photography 3 a haze or blur 4 a series of still pictures projected on a screen in such rapid succession as to create the illusion of moving persons and objects 5 a play, story, etc. in this form —*vt., vi.* 1 to cover or be covered as with a film 2 to photograph or make a film (of)

film'strip' *n.* a length of film with still photographs, often of illustrations, charts, etc., for projection separately

film'y *adj. -i·er, -i·est* 1 gauzy; sheer; thin 2 blurred; hazy —**film'i·ness** *n.*

fil·ter (fil'tər) *n.* [*< ML filtrum, FELT*¹] 1 a device for straining out solid particles, impurities, etc. from a liquid or gas 2 a device or substance for screening out electric oscillations, light waves, etc. of certain frequencies —*vt., vi.* 1 to pass through or as through a filter 2 to remove with a filter —**fil'ter·a·ble** or **fil'tra·ble** (-trə bəl) *adj.*

filter tip 1 a cigarette tip of cellulose, charcoal, etc. for filtering the smoke 2 a cigarette with such a tip

filth (filth) *n.* [*OE fylthe*] 1 foul dirt 2 obscenity —**filth'y, -i·er, -i·est, adj.** —**filth'i·ness** *n.*

fil·trate (fil'trāt') *vt. -trat'ed, -trat'ing* to filter —*n.* a filtered liquid —**fil·tra'tion** *n.*

fin (fin) *n.* [*OE finn*] 1 any of several winglike organs on the body of a fish, dolphin, etc., used in swimming 2 anything like a fin in shape or use

fi·na·gle (fə nā'gəl) *vt., vi. -gled, -gling* [*< ?*] [*Inf.*] to get by, or use, craftiness, trickery, etc. —**fi·na'gler** *n.*

fi·nal (fi'nəl) *adj.* [*< L finis, end*] 1 of or coming at the end; last 2 deciding; conclusive —*n.* 1 anything-final 2 [*pl.*] the last of a series of contests 3 a final examination —**fi·nal'i·ty** (-nal'ə tē) *n.* —**fi'nal·ly** *adv.*

fi·na·le (fə nal'ē) *n.* [*It*] the concluding part of a musical work, etc.

fi'nal·ist *n.* a contestant in the final, deciding contest of a series

fi'nal·ize' *vt. -ized', -iz'ing* [*FINAL + -IZE*] to make final; complete —**fi'nal·i·za'tion** *n.*

fi·nance (fi'nans', fə nans') *n.* [*< L finis, end*] 1 [*pl.*] money resources, income, etc. 2 the science of managing money —*vt. -nanced', -nanc'ing* to supply or get money for —**fi·nan'cial** (-nan'shəl) *adj.* —**fi·nan'cial·ly** *adv.*

fin·an·cier (fin'ən·sir', fi'nən-) *n.* [*Fr*]

one skilled in finance

finch (finch) *n.* [OE *finc*] any of various small, seed-eating birds, including canaries, goldfinches, etc.

find (find) *vt.* **found**, **find'ing** [OE *findan*] 1 to discover by chance; come upon 2 to get by searching 3 to perceive; learn 4 to recover (something lost) 5 to reach; attain 6 to decide and declare to be —*vi.* to reach a decision [the jury *found* for the accused] —*n.* 1 a finding 2 something found —**find out** to discover; learn —**find'er** *n.*

find'ing *n.* 1 discovery 2 something found 3 [often *pl.*] the verdict of a judge, scholar, etc.

fine¹ (fin) *adj.* [L *finis*, end] 1 very good; excellent 2 with no impurities; refined 3 in good health 4 clear and bright [*fine* weather] 5 not heavy or coarse [*fine* sand] 6 very thin or small [*fine* print] 7 sharp [*a fine* edge] 8 subtle; delicate [*a fine* distinction] 9 elegant —*adv.* in a fine manner —**fine'ly** *adv.* —**fine'ness** *n.*

fine² (fin) *n.* [see *prec.*] a sum of money paid as a penalty —*vt.* **fined**, **fin'ing** to order to pay a fine

fine art any of the art forms that include drawing, painting, sculpture, etc.: *usually used in pl.*

fin-er-y (fin'ər ē) *n., pl. -ies* elaborate clothes, jewelry, etc.

finer herbes (fēn zərb') [Fr] a seasoning of chopped herbs, traditionally parsley, chives, tarragon, and chervil

fi-nesse (fə nes') *n.* [see FINE¹] 1 adroitness; skill 2 the ability to handle difficult situations diplomatically 3 cunning; artfulness —*vt.* **-nessed'**, **-ness'ing** 1 to manage or bring about by finesse 2 to evade (a problem, etc.)

fin-ger (fin'gər) *n.* [OE] 1 any of the five jointed parts extending from the palm of the hand, esp. any one other than the thumb 2 anything like a finger in shape or use —*vt.* 1 to touch with the fingers; handle 2 *Music* to play by using the fingers in a certain way —**have** (or **keep**) **one's fingers crossed** to hope for or against something —**put one's finger on** to ascertain exactly

fin'ger-board' *n.* the part of a stringed instrument against which the strings are pressed to produce the desired tones

fin'ger-ling (-lin) *n.* a small fish

fin'ger-nail' *n.* the horny substance at the upper end of a finger

finger painting a painting done by using the fingers, hand, or arm to spread, on wet paper, paints (*finger paints*) made of starch, glycerin, and pigments —**fin'ger-paint'** *vi., vt.*

fin'ger-point'ing *n.* the act of assigning blame to others, often so as to deflect blame from oneself

fin'ger-print' *n.* an impression of the lines and whorls on a finger tip, used to identify a person —*vt.* to take the fingerprints of

fin'ger-tip' *n.* the tip of a finger —**have** at one's fingertips to have available for

instant use

fin-i-al (fin'ē əl) *n.* [ult. < L *finis*, end] a decorative terminal part at the tip of a spire, lamp, etc.

fin-ick-y (fin'ik ē) *adj.* [L *finis*] too particular; fussy: also **fin'i-cal** (-i kəl) or **fin'ick-ing**

fin-is (fin'is; also, as if Fr, fē nē') *n., pl. -nis-es* the end; finish

fin-ish (fin'ish) *vt.* [L *finis*, an end] 1 *a*) to bring to an end *b*) to come to the end of 2 to consume all of 3 to give final touches to; perfect 4 to give (wood, etc.) a desired surface effect —*vi.* to come to an end —*n.* 1 the last part; end 2 *a*) anything used to finish a surface *b*) the finished effect 3 means or manner of completing or perfecting 4 polished manners, speech, etc. —**finish off** 1 to end 2 to kill or ruin —**finish with** to bring to an end —**fin'ished** *adj.* —**fin'ish-er** *n.*

fi-nite (fi'nīt') *adj.* [L *finis*, end] having definable limits; not infinite

fink (fɪnk) *n.* [Ger, lit., finch] [Slang] 1 an informer 2 a strikebreaker —*vi.* [Slang] to inform (on)

Fin-land (fin'lənd) country in N Europe: 130,547 sq. mi.; pop. 5,078,000

Finn (fin) *n.* a person born or living in Finland

fin-nan had-die (fin'an had'ē) [prob. < *Findhorn* (Scotland) *haddock*] smoked haddock

Finn-ish (fin'ish) *n.* the language spoken in Finland —*adj.* of Finland or its people, language, etc.

fin-ny (fin'ē) *adj.* 1 having fins 2 like a fin 3 of or being fish

fiord (fyôrd) *n.* [Norw < ON *fjörth*] a narrow inlet of the sea bordered by steep cliffs

fir (fər) *n.* [OE *fyrh*] 1 a cone-bearing evergreen tree of the pine family 2 its wood

fire (fir) *n.* [OE *fyr*] 1 the flame, heat, and light of combustion 2 something burning 3 a destructive burning [*a forest fire*] 4 strong feeling 5 a discharge of firearms —*vt., vi.* **fired**, **fir'ing** 1 to start burning; ignite 2 to supply with fuel 3 to bake (bricks, etc.) in a kiln 4 to excite or become excited 5 to shoot (a gun, bullet, etc.) 6 to hurl or direct with force 7 to dismiss from a position; discharge —**catch** (on) **fire** to ignite —**on fire** 1 burning 2 greatly excited —**under fire** under attack —**fir'er** *n.*

fire'arm' *n.* any hand weapon from which a shot is fired by explosive force, as a rifle or pistol

fire'base' *n.* a military base in a combat zone, from which artillery, rockets, etc. are fired

fire'bomb' *n.* an incendiary bomb —*vt.* to attack or damage with a firebomb

fire'brand' *n.* 1 a piece of burning wood 2 one who stirs up others to rebellion or strife

fire'break' *n.* a strip of forest or prairie land cleared or plowed to stop the spread of fire

fire-brick (fir'brik') *n.* a highly heat-resistant brick for lining fireplaces, fur-

naces, etc.

fire'bug' n. [Inf.] one who deliberately starts destructive fires; pyromaniac

fire'crack'er n. a roll of paper containing an explosive, set off as a noisemaker at celebrations, etc.

fire'damp' n. an explosive gas, largely methane, formed in coal mines

fire engine a motor truck with equipment for fighting fires

fire escape an outside stairway for escaping from a burning building

fire'fight' n. a short, intense exchange of gunfire between small units of soldiers

fire'fight'er n. a person whose work is putting out fires —**fire'fight'ing n.**

fire'fly' n., pl. -flies' a winged beetle whose abdomen glows with a luminescent light

fire'man (-mən) n., pl. -men (-mən) 1 FIREFIGHTER 2 a person who tends a fire in a furnace, etc.

fire'place' n. a place for a fire, esp. an open place built in a wall under a chimney

fire'plug' n. a street hydrant supplying water for fighting fires

fire'proof' adj. not easily destroyed by fire —**vt.** to make fireproof

fire'side' n. 1 the space around a fireplace 2 home or home life

fire'storm' n. 1 an intense fire over a large area, as one caused by an atomic explosion with its high winds 2 a strong, often violent, outburst or upheaval

fire tower a tower used as a lookout for forest fires

fire'trap' n. a building easily set on fire or hard to get out of if on fire

fire'truck' n. FIRE ENGINE

fire'wa'ter n. alcoholic beverage: now humorous

fire'wood' n. wood used as fuel

fire'works' pl.n. 1 firecrackers, rockets, etc., for noisy effects or brilliant displays: *sometimes used in sing.* 2 a noisy quarrel or display of anger

firing line 1 the line from which gunfire is directed at the enemy 2 the forefront in any kind of activity

firm¹ (fərm) adj. [L *firmus*] 1 solid; hard 2 not moved easily; fixed 3 unchanging; steady 4 resolute; constant 5 showing determination; strong 6 definite [a firm contract] —**vt., vi.** to make or become firm —**firm'ly adv.** —**firm'ness n.**

firm² (fərm) n. [L *firmus*: see prec.] a business company

fir·ma·ment (fə'mə mənt) n. [L *firmare*, strengthen] the sky, viewed poetically as a solid arch or vault

first (fɜrst) adj. [OE *fyrst*] 1 before all others in a series; 1st 2 earliest 3 foremost, as in rank or quality —**adv.** 1 before any other person or thing 2 for the first time 3 sooner; preferably —**n.** 1 any person or thing that is first 2 the beginning 3 a first happening or thing of its kind 4 the winning place, as in a race 5 the slowest forward gear ratio of a motor vehicle transmission

first aid emergency treatment for injury or sudden illness, before regular medical care is available —**first'-aid' adj.**

first'born' adj. born first in a family; oldest —**n.** the firstborn child

first'-class' adj. 1 of the highest class, quality, etc. 2 designating the most expensive accommodations 3 designating or of the most expensive class of ordinary mail —**adv.** 1 with first-class accommodations 2 as or by first-class mail

first family [often F- F-] the family of the U.S. president

first'hand' adj., adv. from the original producer or source; direct

first lady [often F- L-] the wife of the U.S. president

first lieutenant a military officer ranking just above a second lieutenant

first'ly adv. in the first place; first

first person the form of a pronoun or verb that refers to the speaker or writer

first'-rate' adj. highest in rank, quality, etc. —**adv.** [Inf.] very well

first'-string' adj. [Inf.] *Sports* that is the first choice for regular play at a specified position

firth (fɜrth) n. [L *fjörthr*] a narrow inlet or arm of the sea

fis·cal (fis'kəl) adj. [L *fiscus*, public chest] 1 relating to the public treasury or revenues 2 financial 3 designating or of government policies of spending and taxation —**fis'cal-ly adv.**

fish (fɪʃ) n., pl. fish or (for different species) **fish'es** [OE *fisc*] 1 any of a large group of coldblooded vertebrate animals living in water and having fins, gills for breathing, and, usually, scales 2 the flesh of a fish used as food —**vi.** 1 to catch or try to catch fish 2 to try to get something indirectly: often with *for* —**vt.** to grope for, find, and bring to view: often with *out*

fish'er n. 1 the largest marten, having very dark fur 2 this fur

fish'er·man (-mən) n., pl. -men (-mən) 1 a person who fishes for sport or for a living 2 a commercial fishing vessel

fish'er-y n., pl. -ies 1 the business of catching, selling, etc. fish 2 a place where fish, etc. are caught or bred

fish'hook' n. a hook, usually barbed, for catching fish

fish'ing n. the catching of fish for sport or for a living

fish meal ground, dried fish, used as fertilizer or fodder

fish'wife' n., pl. -wives' a coarse, scolding woman

fish'y adj. -i-er, -i-est 1 like a fish in odor, taste, etc. 2 dull or expressionless [fishy eyes] 3 [Inf.] questionable; odd —**fish'i-ly adv.** —**fish'i-ness n.**

fis·sion (fɪʃ'ən, fɪz'-) n. [L *findere*, to split] 1 a splitting apart; cleavage 2 NUCLEAR FISSION —**fis'sion-a·ble adj.**

fis·sure (fɪʃ'ər) n. [see prec.] a cleft or crack

fist (fɪst) n. [OE *fyst*] a hand with the fingers closed tightly into the palm

fist-i-cuffs (fis'ti kufs') *pl.n.* [Old-fashioned] a fight with the fists

fis-tu-la (fis'tyō lə, -chə lə) *n., pl. -las or -lae' (-lē')* [L, a pipe, ulcer] an abnormal passage, as from an abscess to the skin

fit¹ (fit) *vt.* **fit'ted** or **fit**, **fit'ting** [ME *fit-ten*] 1 to be suitable to 2 to be the proper size, shape, etc. for 3 to adjust so as to fit 4 to equip; outfit —*vi.* 1 [Archaic] to be suitable or proper 2 to have the proper size or shape —*adj.* **fit'ter**, **fit'test** 1 suited to some purpose, function, etc. 2 proper; right 3 healthy 4 [Inf.] inclined [she was *fit* to scream] —*n.* the manner of fitting [a tight *fit*] —**fit'ly** *adv.* —**fit'ness** *n.* —**fit'ter** *n.*

fit² (fit) *n.* [OE *fitt*, conflict] 1 any sudden, uncontrollable attack, as of coughing 2 an outburst, as of anger 3 a seizure involving convulsions, loss of consciousness, etc. —**by fits** (and starts) in an irregular way —**have** (or **throw**) a **fit** [Inf.] to become very angry or upset

fit'ful (-fəl) *adj.* characterized by intermittent activity; spasmodic —**fit'ful-ly** *adv.* —**fit'ful-ness** *n.*

fit'ting *adj.* suitable; proper —*n.* 1 an adjustment or trying on of clothes, etc. 2 a small part used to join or adapt other parts 3 [*pl.*] fixtures

five (fiv) *adj., n.* [OE *fif*] one more than four; 5; V

five'-and-ten'-cent' store a store that sells a wide variety of inexpensive merchandise: also **five'-and-ten' n.**

five'-star' adj. having the highest rating, based on a given set of criteria for excellence

fix (fiks) *vt.* **fixed**, **fix'ing** [L *figere*, fasten] 1 to fasten firmly 2 to set firmly in the mind 3 to direct (one's eyes) steadily at something 4 to make rigid 5 to make permanent 6 to establish (a date, etc.) definitely 7 to set in order; adjust 8 to repair 9 to prepare (food or meals) 10 [Inf.] to influence the result or action of (a race, jury, etc.), as by bribery 11 [Inf.] to punish —*vi.* 1 to become fixed 2 [Inf. or Dial.] to prepare or intend —*n.* 1 the position of a ship, etc. determined from the bearings of two known positions 2 [Inf.] a predicament 3 [Slang] a contest, etc. that has been fixed 4 [Slang] an injection of a narcotic by an addict —**fix up** [Inf.] 1 to repair 2 to arrange; set in order —**fix'a-ble** *adj.* —**fix'er** *n.*

fix-a-tion (fik sā'shən) *n.* 1 a fixing or being fixed 2 an obsession 3 a remaining at an early stage of psychosexual development

fix-a-tive (fik'sə tiv) *adj.* that is able or tends to make permanent, prevent fading, etc. —*n.* a fixative substance

fixed (fikst) *adj.* 1 firmly in place 2 established; settled 3 resolute; unchanging 4 persistent [a *fixed* idea] —**fix-ed-ly** (fiks'id lē) *adv.*

fix-ings (fik'sinz') *pl.n.* [Inf.] accessories or trimmings [turkey and all the *fix-ings*]

fix-i-ty (fik'si tē) *n.* the quality or state

of being fixed or steady

fix-ture (fiks'chər) *n.* [see **FIX**] 1 anything firmly in place 2 any attached piece of equipment in a house, etc. 3 a person long established in a job, etc.

fizz (fiz) *n.* [? akin to *fol.*] 1 a hissing, sputtering sound 2 an effervescent drink —*vi.* 1 to make a hissing sound 2 to effervesce

fiz-zle (fiz'əl) *vi.* -zled, -zling [L *floruit*] 1 **FIZZ** (*vi.* 1) 2 [Inf.] to fail, esp. after a good start —*n.* 1 a hissing sound 2 [Inf.] a failure

fl *abbrev.* 1 floor 2 [L *floruit*] (he or she) flourished 3 fluid

FL *abbrev.* Florida

flab (flab) *n.* [L *flabbus*] [Inf.] sagging flesh

flab-ber-gast (flab'ər gast') *vt.* [18th-c. slang < ?] to dumbfound

flab-by (flab'ē) *adj.* -bi-er, -bi-est [L *flabbus*] 1 limp and soft 2 weak —**flab'bi-ly** *adv.* —**flab'bi-ness** *n.*

flac-cid (flak'sid, flas'id) *adj.* [L *flaccus*] soft and limp; flabby

flack (flak) *n.* [L *flaccus*] [Slang] PRESS AGENT —**flack'er-y** *n.*

fla-con (flak'ən; Fr *flacon*) *n., pl. -cons* (-enz; -kōn') [Fr] a small flask with a stopper, as for perfume

flag¹ (flag) *n.* [L *flagellum*, whip] 1 a cloth with colors, patterns, etc., used as a symbol of a nation, state, etc., or as a signal —*vt.* **flagged**, **flag'ging** 1 to signal with or as with a flag; esp., to signal to stop: often with *down* 2 to mark with a symbol

flag² (flag) *n.* [ON *flaga*, slab of stone] FLAGSTONE

flag³ (flag) *n.* [ME *flagge*] any of various irises, or a flower or leaf of one

flag⁴ (flag) *vi.* **flagged**, **flag'ging** [prob. < ON *flagra*, to flutter] 1 to become limp; droop 2 to grow weak or tired

flag-el-late (flaj'ə lāt') *vt.* -lat'ed, -lat'ing [L *flagellum*, a whip] to whip; flog —**flag-el-la-tion** *n.*

fla-gel-lum (flə jel'am) *n., pl. -la* (-ə) or *-lums* [L, a whip] a whiplike part of some cells, as of bacteria or protozoans, used as for moving about

flag-on (flag'ən) *n.* [L *flasco*] a container for liquids, with a handle, a narrow neck, a spout, and, often, a lid

flag'pole' *n.* a pole on which a flag is raised and flown: also **flag'staff'**

fla-grant (flā'grənt) *adj.* [L *flagrare*, to blaze] glaringly bad; outrageous —**fla'gran-cy** (-grən sē) or **fla'grance** *n.* —**fla'grant-ly** *adv.*

flag'ship' *n.* 1 the ship that carries the commander of a fleet or other large naval unit 2 the largest or most important member or part, as of a group

flag'stone' *n.* a flat paving stone

flail (flāl) *n.* [L *flagellum*, a whip] a farm tool for threshing grain by hand —*vt., vi.* 1 to thresh with a flail 2 to beat 3 to move (one's arms) like flails

flair (fler) *n.* [L *fragrare*, to smell] 1 a natural talent; aptitude 2 a sense of style; dash

flak (flak) *n.* [Ger acronym] 1 the fire of antiaircraft guns 2 [Inf.] strong criti-

cism Also sp. flack

flake (flāk) *n.* [**< Scand**] 1 a small, thin mass 2 a piece split off; chip —*vt.*, *vi.* flaked, flak'ing 1 to form into flakes 2 to peel off in flakes

flak'y *adj.* -i-er, -i-est 1 of or producing flakes 2 [Slang] eccentric

flam-bé (flām bā') *adj.* [**Fr**] served with a sauce of flaming brandy, rum, etc. — *n.* a dessert so served

flam-boy-ant (flam boi'ant) *adj.* [**Fr < L flamma**, a flame] 1 flamelike or brilliant 2 too showy or ornate —**flam-boy-ance** or **flam-boy'an-cy** *n.* —**flam-boy'ant-ly** *adv.*

flame (flām) *n.* [**< L flamma**] 1 the burning gas of a fire, appearing as a tongue of light 2 the state of burning with a blaze 3 a thing like a flame 4 an intense emotion 5 a sweetheart — *vi.* flamed, flam'ing 1 to burst into flame 2 to grow red or hot 3 to become excited —*vt.* [**Inf.**] to attack, as by e-mail

fla-men-co (flə men'kō) *n.* [**Sp**] a Spanish gypsy style of dance or music

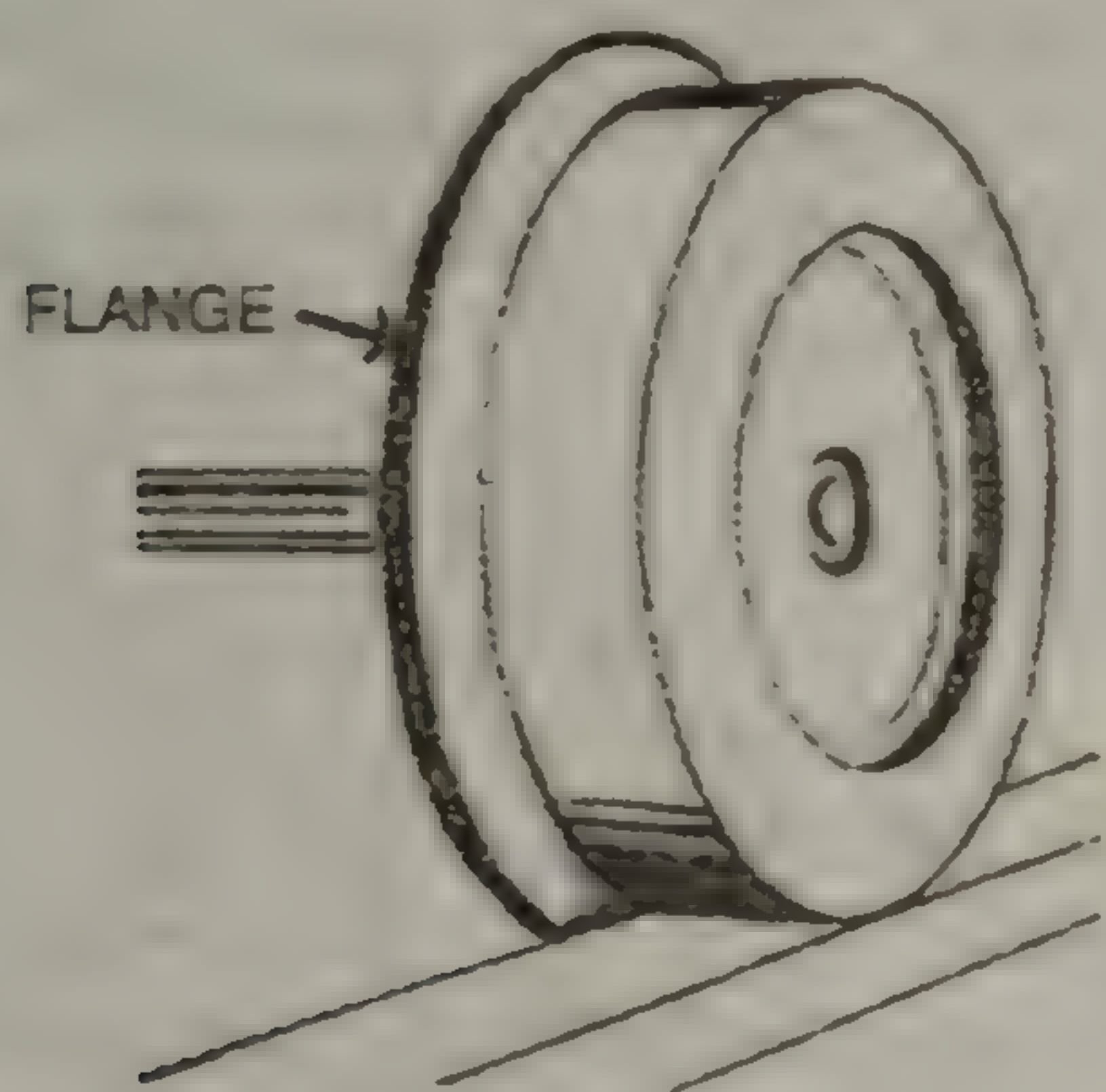
flame'out *n.* 1 a failure of combustion in a jet's engine during flight 2 a sudden and complete failure

flame'throw'er *n.* a weapon that shoots flaming oil, napalm, etc.

fla-min-go (flə min'gō) *n.*, *pl.* -gos' or -goes' [**Port**] a tropical wading bird with long legs and pink or red feathers

flam-ma-ble (flam'ə bəl) *adj.* easily set on fire; that will burn readily or quickly —**flam'ma-bil'i-ty** *n.*

Flan-ders (flan'dərz) region in NW Europe, in France & Belgium



flange (flanj) *n.* [**< ? ME**] a projecting rim on a wheel, etc., that serves to hold it in place, give it strength, etc.

flank (flank) *n.* [**< OFr flank**] 1 the side of an animal between the ribs and the hip 2 the side of anything 3 *Mil.* the right or left side of a formation or force —*vt.* 1 to be at the side of 2 *Mil.* to attack, or pass around, the side of (enemy troops)

flan-nel (flan'al) *n.* [**prob. < Welsh gwlan**, wool] 1 a loosely woven cloth of wool or cotton 2 [*pl.*] trousers, etc. made of this

flan-nel-ette or **flan-nel-et** (flan'al et') *n.* a soft, napped cotton cloth

flap (flap) *n.* [**ME flappe**] 1 anything flat and broad hanging loose at one end 2 the motion or sound of a swinging flap 3 [**Inf.**] a commotion; stir —*vt.* flapped, flap'ping 1 to slap 2 to move back and forth or up and down

flap'jack *n.* a pancake

flap'per *n.* [**Inf.**] in the 1920s, a bold, unconventional young woman

flare (fler) *vi.* flared, flar'ing [**ME fleare** < ?] 1 *a)* to blaze brightly *b)* to burn unsteadily 2 to burst out suddenly, as in anger: often with *up* or *out* 3 to curve outward, as a bell's rim — *n.* 1 a bright, unsteady blaze 2 a brightly flaming light for signaling, etc. 3 an outburst, as of emotion 4 a curving outward

flare'-up' *n.* a sudden outburst of flame or of anger, trouble, etc.

flash (flash) *vi.* [**ME flashen**, to splash] 1 to send out a sudden, brief light 2 to sparkle 3 to come or pass suddenly — *vt.* 1 to cause to flash 2 to send (news, etc.) swiftly 3 [**Inf.**] to display or expose briefly — *n.* 1 a sudden, brief light 2 a brief moment 3 a sudden, brief display 4 a brief item of late news 5 a gaudy display —*adj.* happening swiftly or suddenly —**flash'er** *n.*

flash'back' *n.* 1 an interruption in the continuity of a story, etc. by the telling or showing of an earlier episode 2 a sudden, vivid recollection of a past event

flash'bulb' *n.* a bulb giving a brief, bright light, for taking photographs

flash'cube' *n.* a rotating cube with flashbulbs in four sides

flash'-for'ward *n.* an interruption in the continuity of a story, etc. by the telling or showing of a future episode

flash'ing *n.* sheets of metal used to weatherproof roof joints or edges

flash'light' *n.* a portable electric light

flash point the lowest temperature at which vapor, as of an oil, will ignite with a flash

flash'y *adj.* -i-er, -i-est 1 dazzling 2 gaudy; showy —**flash'i-ness** *n.*

flask (flask) *n.* [**< L flasca**, bottle] 1 any bottle-shaped container used in laboratories, etc. 2 a small, flat container for liquor, etc., to be carried in the pocket

flat¹ (flat) *adj.* flat'ter, flat'test [**< ON flatr**] 1 having a smooth, level surface 2 lying spread out 3 broad, even, and thin 4 absolute [a flat denial] 5 not fluctuating [a flat rate] 6 tasteless; insipid 7 not interesting 8 emptied of air [a flat tire] 9 without gloss [flat paint] 10 *Music a)* lower in pitch by a half step *b)* below true pitch —*adv.* 1 in a flat manner or position 2 exactly 3 *Music* below true pitch — *n.* 1 anything flat, esp. a surface, part, or expanse 2 a deflated tire 3 *Music a)* a note one half step below another *b)* the symbol (*b*) for this —*vt.* flat'ted, flat'ting *Music* to make flat —*vi.* to sing or play below true pitch —**fall flat** to fail in the desired effect —**flat'ly** *adv.* —**flat'ness** *n.* —**flat'tish** *adj.*

flat² (flat) *n.* [**< Scot dial. flet**, floor] [**Chiefly Brit.**] an apartment or suite of rooms

flat'bed' *n.* a truck, trailer, etc. having a bed or platform without sides or stakes

flat'boat' *n.* a flat-bottomed boat for carrying freight in shallow bodies of

water or on rivers

flat'car' n. a railroad freight car without sides or a roof

flat'fish' n., pl. -fish' or (for different species) **-fish'es** a fish having both eyes and mouth on the upper side of a very flat body

flat'foot' n. 1 a condition of the foot in which the instep arch is flattened 2 *pl. -foots' or -feet'* [Slang] a policeman — **flat'-foot'ed adj.**

flat'iron n. an iron for clothes

flat'-out' adj. [Inf.] 1 at full speed, with maximum effort, etc. 2 absolute; thorough

flat·ten (flat'n) *vt., vi.* to make or become flat or flatter

flat·ter (flat'ər) *vt.* [*< OFr flater, to smooth*] 1 to praise insincerely 2 to try to please, as by praise 3 to make seem more attractive than is so 4 to gratify the vanity of — **flat'ter·er n.** — **flat'ter·ing·ly adv.** — **flat'ter·y n.**

flat'top' n. [Slang] 1 an aircraft carrier 2 a haircut in which the hair on top of the head is cut so as to form a flat surface

flat·u·lent (flach'ə lənt) *adj.* [*see fol.*] 1 having or producing gas in the stomach or intestines 2 pompous — **flat'u·lence n.**

fla·tus (flāt'əs) *n.* [*L < flare, to blow*] intestinal gas

flat'ware' n. knives, forks, and spoons

flat'worm' n. any of various worms with flat bodies, as the tapeworm

Flau·bert (flō ber'), **Gus·tave** (güs tāv') 1821-80; Fr. novelist

flaunt (flōnt) *vi.* [*? < dial. flant, to strut*] to make a gaudy or defiant display — *vt.* 1 to show off proudly or defiantly 2 **FLOUT:** usage objected to by many — **flaunt'ing·ly adv.**

flau·tist (flōt'ist, flout'-) *n.* [*< It*] *var. of* FLUTIST

fla·vor (flā'vər) *n.* [*ult. < L flare, to blow*] 1 that quality of a substance that is a mixing of its characteristic taste and smell 2 flavoring 3 characteristic quality — *vt.* to give flavor to Brit. sp. **fla'vour** — **fla'vor·ful adj.** — **fla'vor·less adj.**

fla'vor·ing n. an essence, extract, etc. that adds flavor to food or drink

flaw (flō) *n.* [*ME, a flake, splinter*] 1 a crack, etc. as in a gem 2 a fault, as in reasoning — **flaw'less adj.** — **flaw'less·ly adv.** — **flaw'less·ness n.**

flax (flaks) *n.* [*< OE fleax*] 1 a slender, erect plant with delicate blue flowers: its seed (**flax'seed'**) is used to make linseed oil 2 the fibers of this plant, which are spun into linen thread

flax·en (flak'sən) *adj.* 1 of or made of flax 2 pale-yellow

flay (flā) *vt.* [*OE flean*] 1 to strip off the skin of, as by whipping 2 to criticize harshly

flea (flē) *n.* [*OE fleah*] a small, wingless jumping insect that is a bloodsucking parasite as an adult

flea market an outdoor bazaar dealing

mainly in cheap, secondhand goods

fleck (flek) *n.* [*ON flekkr*] a spot, speck, or flake — *vt.* to spot; speckle

fled (fled) *vi., vt. pt. & pp. of* FLEE

fledg·ling (flej'lin) *n.* [*< ME flegge, ready to fly*] 1 a young bird just able to fly 2 a young, inexperienced person Also, chiefly Brit., **fledge'ling**

flee (flē) *vi.* **fled, flee'ing** [*OE fleon*] 1 to go swiftly or escape, as from danger 2 to pass away swiftly — *vt.* to run away or try to escape from

fleece (flēs) *n.* [*OE fleos*] 1 the wool covering a sheep or similar animal 2 a soft, warm, napped fabric — *vt.* **fleeced, fleec'ing** 1 to shear the fleece from 2 to swindle — **fleec'er n.**

fleec·y (flēs'ē) *adj.* **-i·er, -i·est** of or like fleece; soft and light — **fleec'i·ness n.**

fleet¹ (flēt) *n.* [*OE fleot*] 1 a number of warships under one command 2 any group of ships, trucks, etc. under one control

fleet² (flēt) *adj.* [*< OE fleotan, to float*] swift; rapid — **fleet'ness n.**

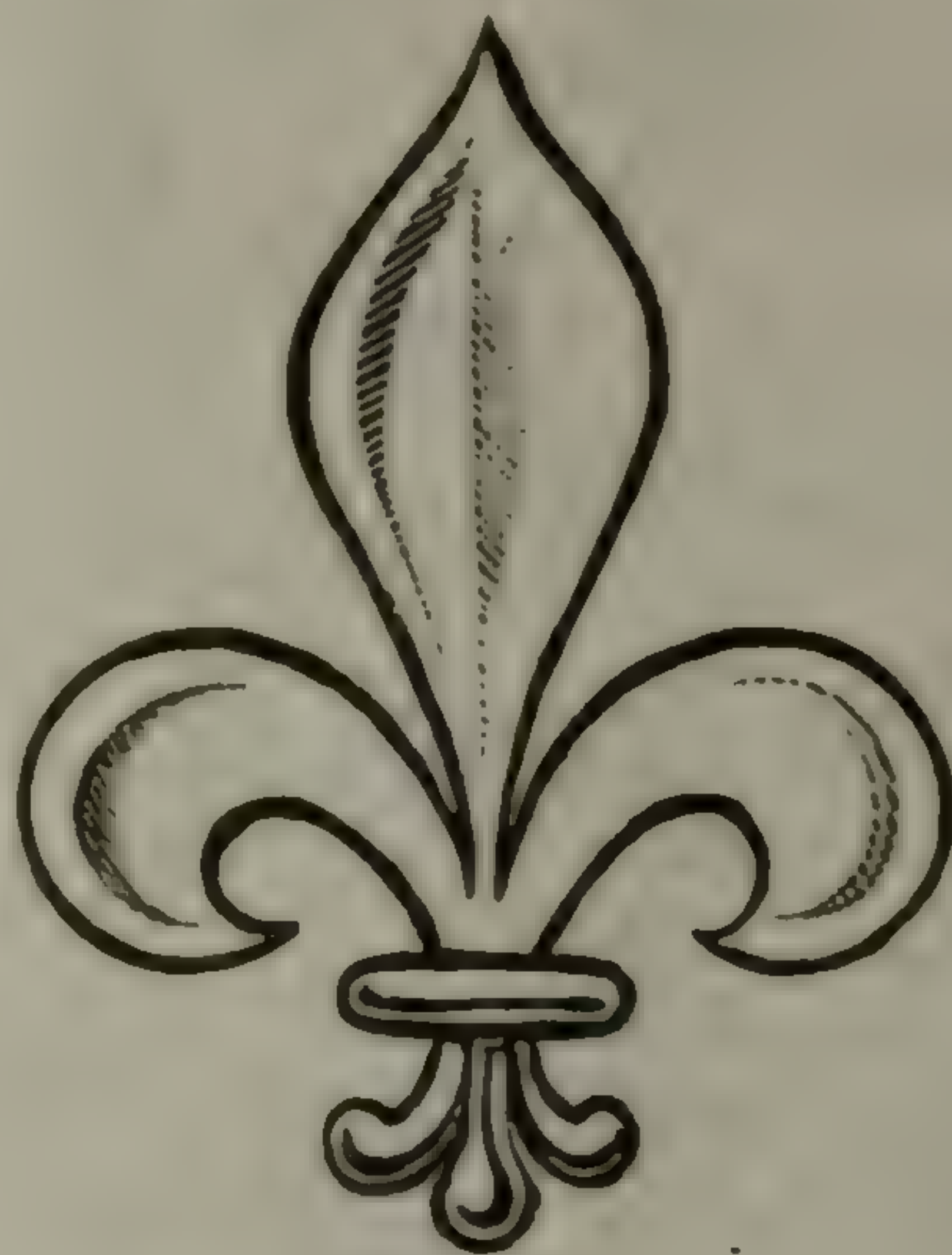
fleet'ing adj. passing swiftly — **fleet'ing·ly adv.** — **fleet'ing·ness n.**

Flem·ish (flem'ish) *adj.* of Flanders or its people, language, etc. — *n.* the West Germanic language of Flanders

flesh (flesh) *n.* [*OE flæsc*] 1 the soft substance of the body; esp., the muscular tissue 2 meat 3 the pulpy part of fruits and vegetables 4 the body as distinct from the soul 5 all humankind 6 yellowish pink — **in the flesh** 1 alive 2 in person — **one's (own) flesh and blood** one's close relatives — **flesh'y, -i·er, -i·est, adj.**

flesh'-and-blood' adj. 1 alive 2 actual 3 present; in person

flesh'ly adj. **-li·er, -li·est** 1 of the body; corporeal 2 sensual



FLEUR-DE-LIS

fleur-de-lis (flur'də lē') *n., pl. fleurs-de-lis* (flur' də lē', -lēz') [*< OFr flor de lis, lit., flower of the lily*] a lilylike emblem: the coat of arms of the former French royal family

flew (flō) *vi., vt. pt. of* FLY¹

flex (fleks) *vt., vi.* [*< L flectere, to bend*] 1 to bend (an arm, knee, etc.) 2 to shorten and thicken (a muscle) in action

flex·i·ble (flek'sə bəl) *adj.* 1 able to bend without breaking; pliant 2 easily influenced 3 adjustable to change —

flex'i-bil'i-ty *n.*

flex'time' *n.* a system allowing individual employees some flexibility in choosing when they work

flib·ber·ti·gib·bet (flib'ər tē jib'it) *n.* [**< ?**] a frivolous, flighty person

flick¹ (flik) *n.* [echoic] a light, quick stroke —**vt.** to strike, remove, etc. with a light, quick stroke

flick² (flik) *n.* [**< fol.**] [Slang] a film —**the flicks** [Slang] a showing of a film

flick·er (flik'ər) *vi.* [OE *flicorian*] 1 to move with a quick, light, wavering motion 2 to burn or shine unsteadily — *n.* 1 a flickering 2 a dart of flame or light

fli·er (fli'ər) *n.* 1 a thing that flies 2 an aviator 3 a bus, train, etc. with a fast schedule 4 a widely distributed handbill 5 [Inf.] a reckless gamble

flight¹ (flit) *n.* [OE *flyht*] 1 the act, manner, or power of flying 2 the distance flown 3 a group of things flying together 4 an airplane scheduled to fly a certain trip 5 a trip by airplane 6 a soaring above the ordinary [a *flight* of fancy] 7 a set of stairs, as between landings

flight² (flit) *n.* [**< OE** *fleon*, flee] a fleeing from or as from danger

flight attendant an airplane attendant who sees to passengers' comfort and safety

flight'less *adj.* not able to fly

flight'y *adj.* -i-er, -i-est 1 given to sudden whims; frivolous 2 easily excited, upset, etc. —**flight'i-ness** *n.*

flim·sy (flim'zē) *adj.* -si-er, -si-est [**< ?**] 1 easily broken or damaged; frail 2 ineffectual [a *flimsy* excuse] —**flim'si-ly** *adv.* —**flim'si-ness** *n.*

flinch (flinch) *vi.* [**< OFr** *flen chir*] to draw back from a blow or anything difficult or painful —*n.* a flinching

fling (flɪŋ) *vt.* flung, fling'ing [**< ON** *flengja*, to whip] 1 to throw, esp. with force; hurl 2 to put abruptly or violently 3 to move (one's limbs, head, etc.) suddenly —*n.* 1 a flinging 2 a brief time of wild pleasures 3 a spirited dance 4 [Inf.] a try 5 [Inf.] a brief love affair

flint (flint) *n.* [OE] a very hard, siliceous rock, usually gray, that produces sparks when struck against steel — **flint'y**, -i-er, -i-est, *adj.*

flip¹ (flip) *vt.* flipped, flip'ping [echoic] 1 to toss with a quick jerk; flick 2 to snap (a coin) into the air with the thumb 3 to turn or turn over —*vi.* 1 to move jerkily 2 [Slang] to lose self-control —*n.* a flipping —**flip one's lid** (or wig) [Slang] to go berserk

flip² (flip) *adj.* flip'per, flip'pest [Inf.] flippant

flip chart a series of large paper sheets containing information, charts, etc., fastened loosely for sequential display

flip'pant (-ənt) *adj.* [prob. **< FLIP**¹] frivolous and disrespectful; saucy — **flip'pan-cy**, *pl.* -cies, *n.* —**flip'pant-ly** *adv.*

flip'per (-ər) *n.* [**< FLIP**¹] 1 a broad, flat limb adapted for swimming, as in seals

2 a paddlelike rubber device worn on each foot by skin divers, etc.

flirt (flɜrt) *vt.* [**< ?**] to move jerkily [the bird *flirted* its tail] —*vi.* 1 to pay amorous attention to someone, without serious intentions 2 to trifle or toy [to *flirt* with an idea] —*n.* 1 a quick, jerky movement 2 one who flirts with others

flir·ta·tion (flər tā'shən) *n.* a frivolous love affair —**flir·ta'tious** *adj.*

flit (flit) *vi.* flit'ted, flit'ting [**< ON** *flytja*] to pass or fly lightly and rapidly

float (flōt) *n.* [**< OE** *flota*, a ship] 1 anything that stays on the surface of a liquid, as a raftlike platform for swimmers, a cork on a fishing line, etc. 2 a floating ball, etc. that regulates a valve, as in a water tank 3 a low, flat vehicle decorated for exhibit in a parade 4 a beverage with ice cream floating in it — *vi.* 1 to stay on the surface of a liquid 2 to drift easily on water, in air, etc. 3 to move about aimlessly 4 to fluctuate freely: said of exchange rates —**vt.** 1 to cause to float 2 to put into circulation [to *float* a bond issue] 3 to arrange for (a loan) —**float'er** *n.*

flock (flæk) *n.* [OE *flocc*] 1 a group of certain animals, as sheep, birds, etc., living or feeding together 2 any group, esp. a large one —*vi.* to assemble or travel in a flock or crowd

flock·ing (flæk'ɪŋ) *n.* [**< L** *floccus*, tuft of wool] 1 tiny fibers of wool, rayon, etc. applied to a fabric, wallpaper, etc. as a velvetlike surface: also **flock** 2 such a fabric, etc.

floe (flō) *n.* [**? < Norw** *flo*, layer] ICE FLOE

flog (flæg, flɔg) *vt.* flogged, flog'ging [**? < L** *flagellare*, to whip] to beat with a stick, whip, etc. —**flog'ger** *n.*

flood (flud) *n.* [OE *flod*] 1 an overflowing of water on an area normally dry 2 the rising of the tide 3 a great outpouring, as of words —**vt.** 1 to cover or fill, as with a flood 2 to put too much water, fuel, etc. on or in —*vi.* 1 to gush out in a flood 2 to become flooded —**the Flood Bible** the great flood in Noah's time

flood'light' *n.* 1 a lamp that casts a broad beam of bright light 2 such a beam of light —**vt.** -light'ed or -lit', -light'ing to illuminate by a floodlight

flood tide the rising tide

floor (flôr) *n.* [OE *flor*] 1 the inside bottom surface of a room 2 the bottom surface of anything [the ocean *floor*] 3 a story in a building 4 the right to speak in an assembly —**vt.** 1 to furnish with a floor 2 to knock down 3 [Inf.] *a*) to defeat *b*) to flabbergast; astound

floor'board' *n.* 1 a board in a floor 2 the floor of an automobile, etc.

floor exercise any gymnastic exercise done without apparatus

floor'ing *n.* 1 a floor or floors 2 material for making a floor

floor show a show presenting singers, dancers, etc., as in a nightclub

flop (fläp) *vt.* flopped, flop'ping [var. of FLAP] to flap or throw noisily and clum-

sily —*vi.* 1 to move, drop, or flap around loosely or clumsily 2 [Inf.] to fail —*n.* 1 the act or sound of flopping 2 [Inf.] a failure —**flop'py**, **-pi·er**, **-pi·est**, *adj.*

flop'house' *n.* [Inf.] a cheap hotel for indigents

floppy disk a small, flexible computer disk for storing data

flo·ra (flôr'ə) *n.* [L < *flos*, a flower] the plants of a specified region or time

flo'ral (-əl) *adj.* of or like flowers

Flor·ence (flôr'əns) city in central Italy: pop. 403,000 —**Flor'en·tine'** (-ən tēn') *adj.*, *n.*

flo·res·cence (flō res'əns) *n.* [L < *flos*, a flower] a blooming or flowering —**flo·res'cent** *adj.*

flor·id (flôr'id) *adj.* [L < *flos*, a flower] 1 ruddy: said of the complexion 2 gaudy; showy; ornate

Flor·i·da (flôr'ə də, flār'-) Southern state of the SE U.S.: 53,937 sq. mi.; pop. 12,938,000; cap. Tallahassee: abbrev. *FL* —**Flo·rid·i·an** (flō rid'ē ən) or **Flor'i·dan** *adj.*, *n.*

flor·in (flôr'in) *n.* [L < *flos*, a flower] any of various European or South African silver or gold coins

flo·rist (flôr'ist) *n.* [L < *flos*, a flower] one who grows or sells flowers

floss (flōs, flās) *n.* [ult. < L *floccus*, tuft of wool] 1 the short, downy waste fibers of silk 2 a soft, loosely twisted thread or yarn, as of silk, for embroidery 3 a substance like this 4 DENTAL FLOSS —*vt.*, *vi.* to clean (the teeth) with dental floss —**floss'y**, **-i·er**, **-i·est**, *adj.*

flo·ta·tion (flō tā'shən) *n.* the act or condition of floating

flo·til·la (flō til'ə) *n.* [Sp, dim. of *flota*, a fleet] 1 a small fleet 2 a fleet of boats or small ships

flot·sam (flăt'səm) *n.* [L < MDu *vloten*, to float] the wreckage of a ship or its cargo floating at sea: used in the phrase **flotsam and jetsam**

flounce¹ (flouns) *vi.* flounced, flounc'ing [L < ? Scand] to move with quick, flinging motions of the body, as in anger —*n.* a flouncing

flounce² (flouns) *n.* [L < OFr *froncir*, to wrinkle] a wide ruffle sewn to a skirt, sleeve, etc. —**flounc'y**, **-i·er**, **-i·est**, *adj.*

floun·der¹ (floun'dər) *vi.* [L < ? FOUNDER] 1 to struggle awkwardly, as in deep mud 2 to speak or act in an awkward, confused manner

floun·der² (floun'dər) *n.* [L < Scand] any of various flatfishes caught for food, as the halibut

flour (flour) *n.* [orig., flower (i.e., best) of meal] 1 a fine, powdery substance produced by grinding and sifting grain, esp. wheat 2 any finely powdered substance —**flour'y** *adj.*

flour·ish (flar'ish) *vi.* [L < *flos*, a flower] 1 to grow vigorously; thrive 2 to be at the peak of development, etc. —*vt.* to brandish (a sword, etc.) —*n.* 1 anything done in a showy way 2 a brandishing 3 decorative lines in handwrit-

ing 4 a musical fanfare

flout (flout) *vt.*, *vi.* [L < ? ME *flouten*, play the flute] to mock or scoff —*n.* a scornful act or remark —**flout'er** *n.*

flow (flō) *vi.* [OE *flowan*] 1 to move as a liquid does 2 to move gently and smoothly 3 to pour out 4 to issue; proceed 5 to hang loose [*flowing hair*] 6 to be plentiful —*n.* 1 a flowing 2 the rate of flow 3 anything that flows 4 the rising of the tide

flow'chart' *n.* a diagram showing steps in a sequence of operations, as in manufacturing

flow·er (flou'ər) *n.* [L < *flos*] 1 the seed-producing structure of a flowering plant; blossom 2 a plant cultivated for its blossoms 3 the best or finest part —*vi.* 1 to produce blossoms 2 to reach the best stage —**in flower** flowering

flow'er·pot' *n.* a container in which to grow plants

flow'er·y *adj.* **-i·er**, **-i·est** 1 covered or decorated with flowers 2 full of ornate expressions and fine words —**flow'er·i·ness** *n.*

flown (flōn) *vi.*, *vt.* *pp.* of FLY¹

flu (flō) *n.* 1 short for INFLUENZA 2 a respiratory or intestinal infection caused by a virus

flub (flub) [Inf.] *vt.*, *vi.* flubbed, flub'bing [L < ? FL(OP) + (D)UB¹] to bungle (a job, stroke, etc.) —*n.* a blunder

fluc·tu·ate (fluk'chō āt') *vi.* **-at'ed**, **-at'ing** [L < *fluctus*, a wave] to be continually varying in an irregular way —**fluc'tu·a'tion** *n.*

flue (flō) *n.* [L < ? OFr *fluie*, a flowing] a tube or shaft for the passage of smoke, hot air, etc., esp. in a chimney

flu·ent (flō'ənt) *adj.* [L < *fluere*, to flow] 1 flowing or moving smoothly 2 able to write or speak easily, expressively, etc. —**flu'en·cy** *n.* —**flu'ent·ly** *adv.*

fluff (fluf) *n.* [? blend of *flue*, soft mass + PUFF] 1 soft, light down 2 a loose, soft mass, as of hair 3 something trivial —*vt.* 1 to shake or pat until loose or fluffy 2 to bungle (one's lines), as in acting

fluff'y *adj.* **-i·er**, **-i·est** soft and light like fluff; feathery

flu·id (flō'id) *adj.* [L < *fluere*, to flow] 1 that can flow as a liquid or gas does 2 that can change rapidly or easily 3 available for investment or as cash —*n.* a liquid or gas —**flu·id'i·ty** *n.* —**flu'id·ly** *adv.*

flake¹ (flōk) *n.* [OE *floc*, a flatfish] TREMATODE

flake² (flōk) *n.* [L < ?] 1 a pointed end of an anchor, which catches in the ground 2 a barb of a harpoon, etc. 3 a lobe of a whale's tail 4 [Inf.] a stroke of luck

flung (flun) *vt.* *pt.* & *pp.* of FLING

flunk (flun) *vt.*, *vi.* [L < ?] [Inf.] to fail, as in a school assignment

flunk·y (flun'kē) *n.*, *pl.* **-ies** [orig. Scot] 1 a toady 2 a person with menial tasks Also **flunk'ey**

fluo·resce (flō res') *vi.* **-resced'**, **-resc'ing** to produce, show, or undergo fluorescence

fluo·res'cence (-res'əns) *n.* [ult. < L

fluor, flux 1 the property of producing light when acted upon by radiant energy 2 the production of such light 3 light so produced —**fluo-res'cent** *adj.*

fluorescent lamp (or tube) a glass tube coated on the inside with a fluorescent substance that gives off light (**fluorescent light**) when mercury vapor in the tube is acted upon by a stream of electrons

fluo-ri-date (flôr'a dāt', floor'-) *vt.* -dated, -dat'ing to add fluorides to (a supply of drinking water) in order to reduce tooth decay —**fluo-ri-da'tion** *n.*

fluo-ride (flôr'id', floor'id') *n.* any of various compounds of fluorine, esp. one put in toothpaste, etc. to prevent tooth decay

fluo'rine' (-ên') *n.* [**< L fluor, flux**] a greenish-yellow, gaseous chemical element

fluo'rite' (-it') *n.* [**< L fluor, flux**] calcium fluoride, a transparent, crystalline mineral: the principal source of fluorine

fluo'ro-carbon (-kär'bən) *n.* any of certain compounds containing carbon, fluorine, and, sometimes, hydrogen

fluo'ro-scope' (-sköp') *n.* a machine for examining internal structures by viewing the shadows cast on a fluorescent screen by objects through which X-rays are directed

flur-ry (flur'ē) *n., pl. -ries* [**< ?**] 1 a sudden gust of wind, rain, or snow 2 a sudden commotion —*vt.* -ried, -ry-ing to confuse; agitate

flush¹ (flush) *vi.* [**blend of FLASH & ME flusshen, fly up suddenly**] 1 to flow rapidly 2 to blush or glow 3 to be washed out with a sudden flow of water 4 to start up from cover: said of birds —*vt.* 1 to wash out with a sudden flow of water 2 to make blush or glow 3 to excite [*flushed with victory*] 4 to drive (birds) from cover —*n.* 1 a rapid flow, as of water 2 a sudden, vigorous growth 3 sudden excitement 4 a blush; glow 5 a sudden feeling of heat, as in a fever —*adj.* 1 well supplied, esp. with money 2 abundant 3 level or even (*with*) 4 direct; full —*adv.* 1 so as to be level 2 directly

flush² (flush) *n.* [**< L fluere, to flow**] a hand of cards all in the same suit

flus-ter (flus'tər) *vt., vi.* [**prob. < Scand**] to make or become confused —*n.* a being flustered

flute (flōt) *n.* [**< Prov fläut**] 1 a high-pitched wind instrument consisting of a long, slender tube with finger holes and keys 2 a groove in the shaft of a column, etc. —**flut'ed** *adj.* —**flut'ing** *n.* —**flut'ist** *n.*

flut-ter (flut'ər) *vi.* [**< OE fleotan, to float**] 1 to flap the wings rapidly, without flying 2 to wave, move, or beat rapidly and irregularly —*vt.* to cause to flutter —*n.* 1 a fluttering movement 2 an excited or confused state —**flut'ter-y** *adj.*

flux (fluks) *n.* [**< L fluere, to flow**] 1 a flowing 2 a continual change 3 a substance used to help metals fuse together, as in soldering

fly¹ (fli) *vi.* flew, flown, fly'ing [**OE fleo-**

gan] 1 to move through the air in an aircraft or by using wings, as a bird does 2 to wave or float in the air 3 to move or pass swiftly 4 to flee 5 **flied, fly'ing** *Baseball* to hit a fly —*vt.* 1 to cause to float in the air 2 to operate (an aircraft) 3 to flee from —*n., pl. flies* 1 a flap that conceals the zipper, etc. in a garment 2 a flap serving as the door of a tent 3 *Baseball* a ball batted high in the air 4 [*pl.*] *Theater* the space above a stage —**let fly (at)** 1 to throw (at) 2 to direct a verbal attack (at) —**on the fly** [*Inf.*] while in a hurry

fly² (fli) *n., pl. flies* [**OE fleoge**] 1 any of a large group of insects with two or four wings 2 an artificial fly used as a lure in fishing

fly'a-ble *adj.* suitable for flying

fly'by' or fly'-by' *n., pl. -bys'* a flight past a designated point or place by an aircraft or spacecraft

fly'-by-night' *adj.* financially irresponsible —*n.* an absconding debtor

fly'-by-wire' *adj.* of a system for controlling an airplane or spacecraft electronically, as by computer

fly'-cast' *vt.* -cast', -cast'ing to fish by casting artificial flies

fly'catch'er *n.* a small bird that catches insects in flight

fly'er *n. alt. sp. of FLIER*

flying buttress a buttress connected with a wall by an arch, serving to resist outward pressure

flying colors used in with flying colors, with notable success

fly'ing-fish' *n., pl. -fish' or (for different species) -fish'es* a fish with winglike fins used in gliding through the air: also flying fish

flying saucer a UFO

fly'leaf' *n., pl. -leaves'* a blank leaf at the beginning or end of a book

fly'pa'per *n.* a sticky or poisonous paper set out to catch flies

fly'speck' *n.* 1 a speck of fly excrement 2 any tiny spot or petty flaw

fly'way' *n.* a route taken regularly by birds migrating to and from breeding grounds

fly'weight' *n.* a boxer who weighs 112 pounds or less

fly'wheel' *n.* a heavy wheel on a machine, for regulating its speed

FM¹ (ef'em') *n.* frequency-modulation broadcasting or sound transmission

FM² *abbrev.* frequency modulation

f-num-ber (ef'num'bər) *n.* *Photog.* a number indicating the relative aperture of a lens: a higher number means a smaller opening

foal (fōl) *n.* [**OE folā**] a young horse, mule, etc.; colt or filly —*vt., vi.* to give



FLYING
BUTTRESS

birth to (a foal)

foam (fōm) *n.* [OE *fam*] 1 the whitish mass of bubbles formed on or in liquids by agitation, fermentation, etc. 2 something like foam, as frothy saliva 3 a rigid or spongy cellular mass, made from liquid rubber, plastic, etc. —*vi.* to produce foam —**foam'y**, **-i-er**, **-i-est**, *adj.*

fob (fāb) *n.* [prob. < dial. Ger *fuppe*, a pocket] 1 a short ribbon or chain attached to a pocket watch 2 any ornament worn on such a chain, etc.

fo-cal (fō'kəl) *adj.* of or at a focus

focal length the distance from the optical center of a lens to the point where the light rays converge

fo'c'sle or **fo'c's'le** (fōk'səl) *contr. n.* *phonetic sp. of FORECASTLE*

fo-cus (fō'kəs) *n., pl. -cus-es or -ci' (-sī')* [L, hearth] 1 the point where rays of light, heat, etc. come together; specif., the point where rays of reflected or refracted light meet 2 FOCAL LENGTH 3 an adjustment of this to make a clear image [bring a lens into *focus*] 4 any center of activity, attention, etc. —*vt.* **-cused** or **-cussed**, **-cus-ing** or **-cus-sing** 1 to bring into focus 2 to adjust the focal length of (the eye, a lens, etc.) so as to produce a clear image 3 to concentrate —**in focus** clear and sharp — **out of focus** blurred

fod-der (fäd'ər) *n.* [OE *fodor*] coarse food for cattle, horses, etc., as hay

foe (fō) *n.* [OE *fah*, hostile] an enemy

foe-tus (fēt'əs) *n. alt. sp. of FETUS*

fog (fōg, fäg) *n.* [prob. < Scand] 1 a large mass of water vapor condensed to fine particles, at or just above the earth's surface 2 a state of mental confusion —*vt., vi.* **fogged**, **fog'ging** to make or become foggy

fog'gy *adj.* **-gi-er**, **-gi-est** 1 full of fog 2 dim; blurred 3 confused —**fog'gi-ness** *n.*

fog'horn' *n.* a horn blown to warn ships in a fog

fo-gy (fō'gē) *n., pl. -gies* [< ?] one who is old-fashioned: usually with *old*: also **-fo'gey**, *pl. -geys*

foi-ble (fōi'bəl) *n.* [< Fr *faible*, feeble] a small weakness in character

foil¹ (foil) *vt.* [< OFr *fuler*, trample] to keep from being successful; thwart

foil² (foil) *n.* [< L *folium*, leaf] 1 a very thin sheet of metal 2 a person or thing that sets off another by contrast 3 [< ?] a long, thin, blunted fencing sword

foist (foist) *vt.* [prob. < dial. Du *vuisten*, to hide in the hand] to get (a thing) accepted, sold, etc. by fraud, deception, etc.; palm off: with *on* or *upon*

fol *abbrev.* 1 folio(s) 2 following

fold¹ (föld) *vt.* [OE *faldan*] 1 to double (material) up on itself 2 to draw together and intertwine [to *fold* the arms] 3 to embrace 4 to wrap up; envelop —*vi.* 1 to be or become folded 2 [Inf.] *a*) to fail, as a business, play, etc. *b*) to fail suddenly; collapse —*n.* a folded part

fold² (föld) *n.* [OE *fald*] 1 a pen for

sheep 2 a flock of sheep 3 a group sharing a common faith, goal, etc.

-fold (föld) [< OE *-feald*] *suffix* 1 having (a specified number of) parts 2 (a specified number of) times as many or as much [to profit *tenfold*]

fold'a-way' *adj.* that can be folded together for easy storage

fold'er *n.* 1 a sheet of heavy paper folded for holding loose papers 2 a pamphlet or circular of one or more folded, unstitched sheets

fo-li-age (fō'lē ij) *n.* [< L *folia*] leaves, as of a plant or tree

fo-lic acid (fō'lik) [< L *folium*, leaf] a substance belonging to the vitamin B complex, used in treating anemia

fo-li-o (fō'lē ō') *n., pl. -os'* [< L *folium*, leaf] 1 a large sheet of paper folded once 2 a large size of book, about 12 by 15 inches, made of sheets so folded 3 the number of a page in a book

folk (fōk) *n., pl. folks or folk* [OE *folc*] 1 a people or nation 2 [*pl.*] people; persons —*adj.* of or originating among the common people —**one's** (or **the**) **folks** [Inf.] one's family, esp. one's parents

folk'lore' *n.* [prec. + LORE] the traditional beliefs, legends, etc. of a culture

folk song 1 a song made and handed down among the common people 2 a song composed in imitation of this — **folk singer**

folk'sy (-sē) *adj.* **-si-er**, **-si-est** [Inf.] friendly or sociable

fol-li-cle (fāl'i kəl) *n.* [< L *follicis*, bellows] any small sac, cavity, or gland for excretion or secretion [a hair *follicle*]

fol-low (fāl'ō) *vt.* [< OE *folgian*] 1 to come or go after 2 to pursue 3 to go along [*follow* the road] 4 to take up (a trade, etc.) 5 to result from 6 to take as a model; imitate 7 to obey 8 to watch or listen to closely 9 to be interested in developments in [to *follow* local politics] 10 to understand —*vi.* 1 to come or go after something else in place, time, etc. 2 to result —**follow out** (or **up**) to carry out fully —**follow through** to continue and complete a stroke or action

fol'low-er *n.* one that follows; specif., *a*) one who follows another's teachings; disciple *b*) an attendant

fol'low-ing *adj.* that follows; next after —*n.* a group of followers —*prep.* after [*following* dinner they left]

fol'low-up' *n.* a letter, visit, etc. that follows as a review, addition, etc.

fol-ly (fāl'ē) *n., pl. -lies* [see FOOL] 1 a lack of sense; foolishness 2 a foolish action or belief 3 a foolish and useless but expensive undertaking

fo-ment (fō ment') *vt.* [< L *fovere*, keep warm] to stir up (trouble); incite — **fo'men-ta'tion** *n.*

fond (fänd) *adj.* [< ME *fonnen*, be foolish] 1 tender and affectionate; loving or doting 2 cherished [a *fond* hope] — **fond of** having a liking for —**fond'ly** *adv.* —**fond'ness** *n.*

fon-dle (fän'dəl) *vt.* **-dled**, **-dling** [< prec.] to caress or handle lovingly

fon-due or **fon-du** (fän dōō', fän'dōō')

n. [Fr < *fondre*, melt] melted cheese, etc. used as a dip for cubes of bread

font¹ (fänt) **n.** [< L *fons*, spring] 1 a basin to hold baptismal water 2 a container for holy water 3 a source

font² (fänt) **n.** [see FOUND²] *Printing* a complete assortment of type in one size and style

fon-ta-nel or **fon-ta-nelle** (fänt'n el') **n.** [ME *fontinel*, a hollow] a soft, boneless area in the skull of a baby or young animal, that gradually closes up as bone is formed

food (fōd) **n.** [OE *foda*] 1 any substance, esp. a solid, taken in by a plant or animal to enable it to live and grow 2 anything that nourishes

food chain *Ecology* a sequence (as grass, rabbit, fox) of organisms in a community in which each member feeds on the one below it

food poisoning sickness caused by contaminants, as bacteria, in food, or by naturally poisonous foods

food processor an electrical appliance that can blend, purée, slice, grate, chop, etc. foods rapidly

food stamp any of the federal coupons given to qualifying low-income persons for use in buying food

food'stuff **n.** any substance used as food

fool (fōl) **n.** [< L *foliis*, windbag] 1 a silly or stupid person 2 a jester 3 a victim of a trick, etc.; dupe —*vi.* 1 to act like a fool 2 to joke 3 [Inf.] to meddle (*with*) —*vt.* to trick; deceive —**fool around** [Inf.] to trifle —**fool'er-y** **n.**

fool'har'dy **adj.** -di-er, -di-est foolishly daring; reckless —**fool'har'di-ly** **adv.** —**fool'har'di-ness** **n.**

fool'ish **adj.** 1 silly; unwise 2 ridiculous 3 embarrassed —**fool'ish-ly** **adv.** —**fool'ish-ness** **n.**

fool'proof **adj.** so simple, well-designed, etc. as not to be mishandled, damaged, misunderstood, etc. even by a fool

fools-cap (fōlz'kap') **n.** [from a watermark of a jester's cap] a size of writing paper, 13 by 16 in. in the U.S.

foot (foot) **n., pl. feet** [OE *foet*] 1 the end part of the leg, on which one stands 2 the base or bottom [the *foot* of a page] 3 the muscular part of a mollusk used in burrowing, moving, etc. 4 a measure of length equal to 12 inches: symbol ' 5 [with *pl. v.*] [Brit.] infantry 6 a group of syllables serving as a unit of meter in verse —*vt.* 1 to add (a column of figures): often with *up* 2 [Inf.] to pay (costs, etc.) —**foot it** [Inf.] to dance, walk, etc. —**on foot** walking —**under foot** in the way

foot'age (-ij) **n.** 1 measurement in feet, as of film 2 a length of film that has been shot

foot'-and-mouth' disease a contagious disease of cloven-footed animals, causing blisters in the mouth and around the hoofs

foot'ball **n.** 1 a game played on a rectangular field with an inflated, oval leather ball by two teams that try to score touchdowns 2 [Brit.] a) soccer b)

rugby 3 the ball used in any of these games

foot'bridge **n.** a bridge for pedestrians

foot'-can'dle **n.** a unit for measuring illumination

foot'ed **adj.** having feet of a specified number or kind [*four-footed*]

foot'fall **n.** the sound of a footstep

foot'hill **n.** a low hill at or near the foot of a mountain or mountain range

foot'hold **n.** 1 a secure place for a foot, as in climbing 2 a secure position

foot'ing **n.** 1 a secure placing of the feet 2 the condition of a surface, as for walking 3 a foothold 4 a secure position 5 a basis for relationship

foot'less (-lis) **adj.** 1 without a foot or feet 2 without basis 3 [Inf.] clumsy; inept

foot'lights **pl.n.** a row of lights along the front of a stage floor —**the footlights** the theater or the profession of acting

foot'lock'er **n.** a small trunk, usually kept at the foot of a bed

foot'loose **adj.** free to go wherever, or do whatever, one likes

foot'man (-mən) **n., pl. -men** (-mən) a male servant who assists the butler

foot'note **n.** 1 a note of comment or reference at the bottom of a page 2 such a note at the end of a chapter or a book 3 an additional comment, etc. —*vt.* -not'ed, -not'ing to add a footnote or footnotes to

foot'path **n.** a narrow path for use by pedestrians only

foot'-pound **n.** a unit of energy or work, the amount required to raise one pound a distance of one foot

foot'print **n.** 1 a mark made by a foot 2 an area, or its shape, which something affects, occupies, etc.

foot'sore **adj.** having sore or tender feet, as from much walking

foot'step **n.** 1 the distance covered in a step 2 the sound of a step 3 FOOT-PRINT (sense 1) —**follow in someone's footsteps** to follow someone's example, etc.

foot'stool **n.** a low stool for supporting the feet of a seated person

foot'wear **n.** shoes, boots, etc.

foot'work **n.** the act or manner of using the feet, as in boxing or dancing

fop (fäp) **n.** [ME *foppe*, a fool] DANDY (*n.* 1) —**fop'per-y**, **pl. -ies**, **n.** —**fop'pish** **adj.** —**fop'pish-ly** **adv.**

for (fôr, fər) **prep.** [OE] 1 in place of [use a rope *for* a belt] 2 in the interest of [to act *for* another] 3 in favor of [vote *for* the levy] 4 in honor of [a party *for* her] 5 in order to be, get, have, keep, find, etc. [walk *for* exercise, start *for* home] 6 meant to be received by [flowers *for* a friend] 7 suitable to [a room *for* sleeping] 8 with regard to; concerning [an ear *for* music] 9 as being [to know *for* a fact] 10 considering the nature of [cool *for* July] 11 because of [a cry *for* pain] 12 at the price of [sold *for* \$20,000] 13 to the

length, amount, or duration of —*conj.* because; since —*for* all in spite of

for- [OE] *prefix* away, apart, off [*forbid*, *forgo*]

for-age (fôr'ij, fär'-) *n.* [*< OFr forre, fodder*] 1 food for domestic animals 2 a search for food —*vi.* -aged, -ag-ing 1 to search for food 2 to search for something one wants —*vt.* to take food from; raid —*for'ag-er n.*

for-ay (fôr'ā) *vt., vi.* [*< OFr forrer, to forage*] to plunder —*n.* a raid in order to seize things

for-bear¹ (fôr ber') *vt.* -bore', -borne', -bear'ing [see FOR- & BEAR¹] to refrain from (doing, saying, etc.) —*vi.* 1 to refrain 2 to control oneself under provocation

for'bear² *n.* *alt. sp. of FOREBEAR*

for-bear'ance *n.* 1 the act of forbearing 2 self-restraint

for-bid (fər bid', fôr-) *vt.* -bade' (-bad') or -bad', -bid'den, -bid'ding [see FOR- & BID] 1 to order (a person) not to do (something); prohibit 2 to prevent

for-bid'ding *adj.* looking dangerous or disagreeable; repellent —*for-bid'ding-ly adv.*

force (fōrs) *n.* [*< L fortis, strong*] 1 strength; power 2 physical coercion against a person or thing 3 the power to control, persuade, etc.; effectiveness 4 military power 5 any group of people organized for some activity [a sales *force*] 6 energy that causes or alters motion 7 *Law* binding power; validity —*vt.* forced, forc'ing 1 to make do something by force; compel 2 to break open, into, or through by force 3 to take by force; extort 4 to impose by force: with *on* or *upon* 5 to produce as by force [to *force* a smile] 6 to cause (plants, etc.) to develop faster by artificial means —*in force* 1 in full strength 2 in effect; valid —*force'less adj.*

forced (fōrst) *adj.* 1 compulsory [*forced labor*] 2 not natural; strained [a *forced* smile] 3 due to necessity [a *forced* landing] 4 at a faster pace [a *forced* march] —*forc-ed-ly* (fōrs'id lē) *adv.*

force'-feed' *vt.* -fed', -feed'ing to feed as by a tube through the throat to the stomach

force'ful (-fəl) *adj.* full of force; powerful, vigorous, effective, etc. —*force'ful-ly adv.* —*force'ful-ness n.*

for-ceps (fôr'seps') *n., pl.* -ceps' [L *< formus, warm + capere, to take*] small tongs or pincers for grasping, pulling, etc.

for-ci-ble (fôr'sə bəl) *adj.* 1 done by force 2 having force —*for'ci-bly adv.*

ford (fōrd) *n.* [OE] a shallow place in a stream, etc. where one can cross by wading —*vt.* to cross at a ford —*ford'a-ble adj.*

Ford (fōrd) 1 Ger-ald R(udolph), Jr. (jer'ald) 1913- ; 38th president of the U.S. (1974-77) 2 Henry 1863-1947; U.S. automobile manufacturer

fore (fôr) *adv., adj.* [OE] at, in, or toward the front part, as of a ship —*n.* the front —*interj.* *Golf* a shout warning

that one is about to hit the ball

fore- [OE] *prefix* 1 before in time, place, etc. [*forenoon*] 2 the front part of [*forehead*]

fore-and-aft (fôr'an aft') *adj.* *Naut.* from the bow to the stern; set lengthwise, as sails

fore'arm¹ *n.* the part of the arm between the elbow and the wrist

fore-arm² *vt.* to arm in advance

fore'bear (-ber') *n.* [*< FORE + BE + -ER*] an ancestor

fore-bode' (-bōd') *vt., vi.* -bod'ed, -bod'ing [*< OE*] 1 to foretell; predict 2 to have a presentiment of (something bad) —*fore-bod'ing n.*

fore'cast *vt.* -cast' or -cast'ed, -cast'ing 1 to predict 2 to serve as a prediction of —*n.* a prediction —*fore'cast'er n.*

fore-cas-tle (fōk'səl, fôr'kas'al) *n.* 1 the upper deck of a ship in front of the foremast 2 the front part of a merchant ship, where the crew's quarters are located

fore-close (fôr klōz') *vt., vi.* -closed', -clos'ing [*< OFr fors, outside + clore, CLOSE*²] to take away the right to redeem (a mortgage) —*fore-clo'sure* (-klō'zhər) *n.*

fore-doom' *vt.* to doom in advance

fore'fa'ther *n.* an ancestor

fore'fin'ger *n.* the finger nearest the thumb

fore'foot *n., pl.* -feet' either of the front feet of an animal

fore'front *n.* 1 the extreme front 2 the position of most importance, activity, etc.

fore-go¹ *vt., vi.* -went', -gone', -go'ing to go before in place, time, etc.; precede

fore-go² *vt.* *alt. sp. of FORGO*

fore'go'ing *adj.* previously said, written, etc.; preceding

fore-gone' *adj.* 1 previous 2 previously determined; inevitable

fore'ground *n.* 1 the part of a scene, etc. nearest to the viewer 2 the most noticeable position —*vt.* to place in the foreground; emphasize

fore'hand *n.* a stroke, as in tennis, made with the palm of the hand turned forward —*adj.* done as with a forehand

fore-head (fôr'ed', -hed'; fär'-) *n.* the part of the face between the eyebrows and the line where the hair normally begins

for-eign (fôr'in, fär'-) *adj.* [*< L foras, out-of-doors*] 1 situated outside one's own country, locality, etc. 2 of, from, or having to do with other countries 3 not belonging; not characteristic

for'eign-born' *adj.* born in some other country; not native

for'eign-er *n.* a person from another country; alien

foreign minister a member of a governmental cabinet in charge of foreign affairs for the country

fore-know (fôr nō') *vt.* -knew', -known', -know'ing to have knowledge of beforehand —*fore'knowl'edge* (-nāl'ij) *n.*

fore'leg *n.* either of the front legs of an

animal

fore'lock' n. a lock of hair growing just above the forehead

fore'man (-mən) *n.*, *pl.* **-men** (-mən) 1 the chairman of a jury 2 the head of a group of workers

fore'mast' n. the mast nearest the bow of a ship

fore'most' adj. first in place, time, etc. —*adv.* first

fore'noon' n. the time from sunrise to noon; morning

fo-ren-sic (fə ren'sik, -zik) *adj.* [*< L forum, marketplace*] 1 of or suitable for public debate 2 involving the application of scientific, esp. medical, knowledge to legal matters —*n.* [*pl.*] debate or formal argumentation —**fo-ren'si-cal-ly** *adv.*

forensic medicine MEDICAL JURISPRUDENCE

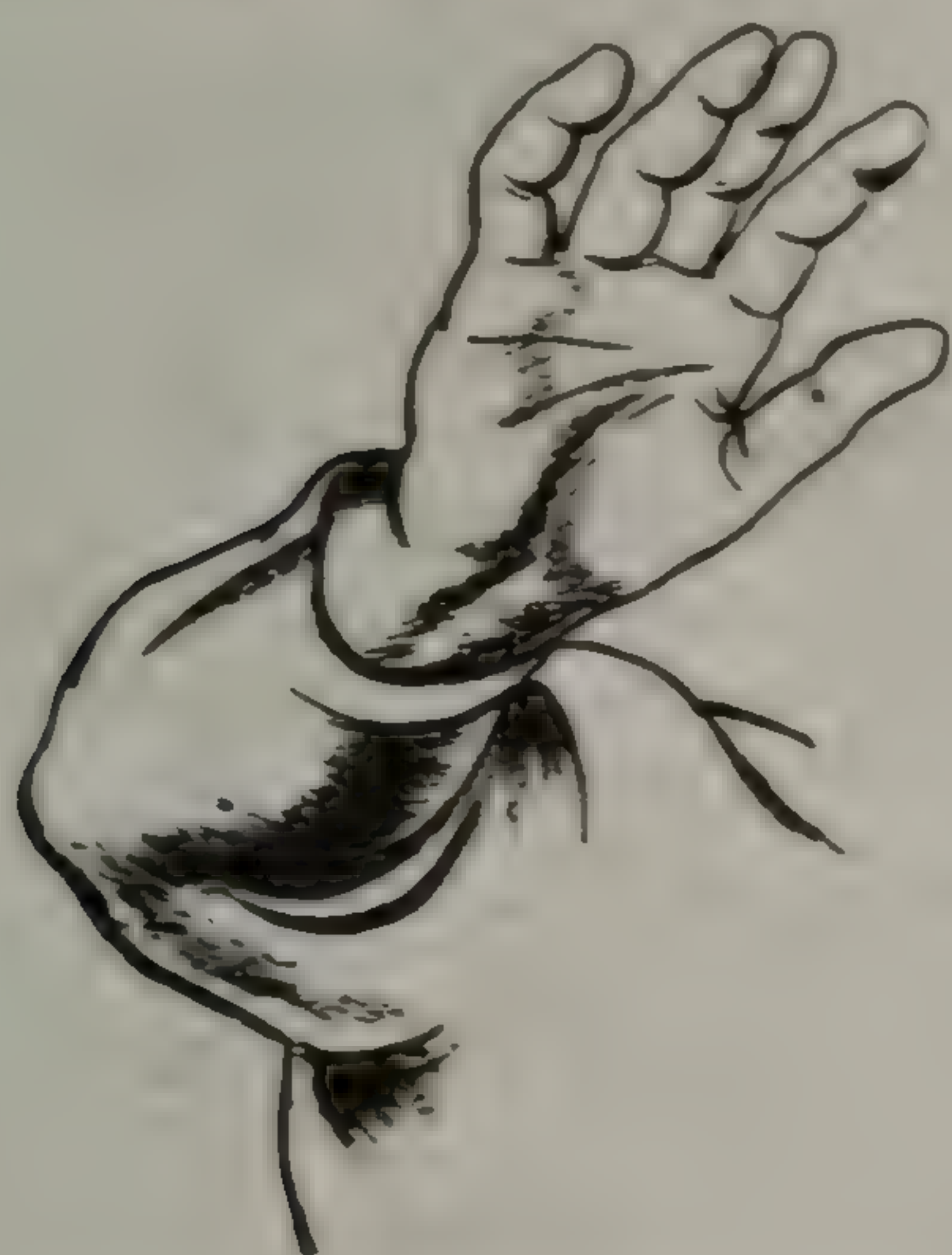
fore'or-dain' vt. to ordain beforehand; predestine —**fore'or-di-na'tion n.**

fore'run'ner n. 1 a herald 2 a sign that tells or warns of something to follow 3 a predecessor; ancestor

fore'sail' (-sāl', -səl) n. the lowest sail on the foremast of a square-rigged ship or a schooner

fore-see' vt. -saw', -seen', -see'ing to see or know beforehand —**fore-see'a-ble adj.** —**fore-se'er n.**

fore-shad'ow vt. to indicate or suggest beforehand; prefigure



FORESHORTENED ARM

fore-short'en vt. in drawing, etc., to shorten some lines of (an object) to give the illusion of proper relative size

fore'sight' n. 1 *a*) the act of foreseeing *b*) the power to foresee 2 prudent regard or provision for the future

fore'skin' n. the fold of skin that covers the end of the penis

for-est (fôr'ist) *n.* [*< L foris, out-of-doors*] a thick growth of trees, etc. covering a large tract of land —**vt.** to plant with trees

fore-stall' vt. [*< OE foresteall, ambush*] 1 to prevent by doing something ahead of time 2 to act in advance of; anticipate

for-est-a-tion (fôr'is tā'shən, fār'-) *n.* the planting or care of forests

for'est-ed adj. covered with trees and underbrush

for'est-er n. one trained in forestry

for'est-ry n. the science of planting and taking care of forests

fore-taste (fôr'tāst') *n.* a taste or sample of what can be expected

fore-tell' vt. -told', -tell'ing to tell or indicate beforehand; predict

fore'thought' n. 1 a thinking or planning beforehand 2 foresight

for-ev-er (fôr ev'ər, fər-) *adv.* 1 for always; endlessly 2 at all times; always Also **for-ev'er-more'**

fore-warn (fôr wôr'n') *vt.* to warn beforehand

fore'wom'an n., *pl.* **-wom'en a woman serving as a foreman**

fore'word n. an introductory statement in a book

for-feit (fôr'fit) *n.* [*< OFr forfaire, transgress*] 1 a fine or penalty for some crime, fault, or neglect 2 the act of forfeiting —*adj.* lost or taken away as a forfeit —**vt.** to lose or be deprived of as a forfeit

for'fei-ture (-fə chər) *n.* 1 the act of forfeiting 2 anything forfeited

for-gath-er (fôr gath'ər) *vi.* to come together; meet; assemble

for-gave (fər gāv', fôr-) *vt.*, *vi.* *pt.* of FORGIVE

forge¹ (fôrj) *n.* [*< L faber, workman*] 1 a furnace for heating metal to be wrought 2 a place where metal is heated and wrought; smithy —**vt.** **forged, forg'ing** 1 to form or shape (metal) by heating and hammering 2 to form; shape 3 to imitate (a signature) fraudulently, counterfeit (a check), etc. —*vi.* 1 to work at a forge 2 to commit forgery —**forg'er n.**

forge² (fôrj) *vi.* **forged, forg'ing** [*prob. < FORCE*] to move forward steadily: often with *ahead*

for'ger-y n., *pl.* **-ies 1 the act or crime of imitating or counterfeiting documents, signatures, etc. to deceive 2 anything forged**

for-get (fər get', fôr-) *vt.*, *vi.* **-got', -got'ten or -got', -get'ting** [*OE for-gietan*] 1 to be unable to remember 2 to overlook or neglect (something) —**forget oneself** to act in an improper manner —**for-get'ta-ble adj.**

for-get'ful adj. 1 apt to forget 2 heedless or negligent —**for-get'ful-ly adv.** —**for-get'ful-ness n.**

for-get'-me-not' n. a marsh plant with small blue, white, or pink flowers

for-give (fər giv', fôr-) *vt.*, *vi.* **-gave', -giv'en, -giv'ing** [*OE forgiefan*] 1 to give up resentment against or the desire to punish; pardon (an offense or offender) 2 to cancel (a debt) —**for-giv'a-ble adj.** —**for-give'ness n.** —**for-giv'er n.**

for-giv'ing adj. inclined to forgive —**for-giv'ing-ly adv.**

for-go (fôr gō') *vt.* **-went', -gone', -go'ing** [*OE forgan*] to do without; abstain from; give up —**for-go'er n.**

for-got (fər gät') *vt.*, *vi.* *pt.* & *alt. pp.* of FORGET

for-got'ten vt., *vi.* *alt. pp.* of FORGET

fork (fôrk) *n.* [*< L furca*] 1 an instrument of varying size with prongs at one end, as for eating food, pitching hay, etc. 2 something like a fork in shape, etc. 3 the place where a road, etc. divides into branches 4 any of these branches —*vi.* to divide into branches —*vt.* to pick up or pitch with a fork — **fork over** (or out or up) [*Inf.*] to pay out; hand over — **fork'ful'**, *pl.* -fuls', *n.*

fork'lift' *n.* 1 a device for lifting heavy objects by means of projecting prongs that are slid under the load 2 a small truck with such a device

for·lorn (fôr lôrn') *adj.* [*< OE forleosan, lose utterly*] 1 abandoned 2 wretched; miserable 3 without hope — **for·lorn'ly** *adv.*

form (fôrm) *n.* [*< L forma*] 1 shape; general structure 2 the figure of a person or animal 3 a mold 4 a particular mode, kind, type, etc. [*ice is a form of water, the forms of poetry*] 5 arrangement; style 6 a way of doing something requiring skill 7 a customary or conventional way of acting; ceremony; ritual 8 a printed document with blanks to be filled in 9 condition of mind or body 10 RACING FORM 11 a changed appearance of a word to show inflection, etc. 12 type, etc. locked in a frame for printing 13 what is expected, based on past performances [*according to form*] —*vt.* 1 to shape; fashion 2 to train; instruct 3 to develop (habits) 4 to make up; constitute 5 to organize into [*to form a club*] —*vi.* to be formed

-form (fôrm) [*< L*] combining form having the form of [*cuneiform*]

for·mal (fôr'məl) *adj.* [*< L formalis*] 1 according to fixed customs, rules, etc. 2 stiff in manner 3 *a)* designed for wear at ceremonies, etc. *b)* requiring clothes of this kind 4 done or made in explicit, definite form [*a formal contract*] 5 designating language usage characterized by expanded vocabulary, complex syntax, etc. 6 designating education in schools, etc. —*n.* 1 a formal dance 2 a woman's evening dress — **for'mal·ly** *adv.*

form·al·de·hyde (fôr mal'də hīd') *n.* [*FORM(IC) + aldehyde*] a pungent gas used in solution as a disinfectant and preservative

for'mal·ism' *n.* strict attention to outward forms and traditions

for·mal·i·ty (fôr mal'ə tē) *n., pl.* -ties 1 *a)* an observing of customs, rules, etc.; propriety *b)* excessive attention to convention; stiffness 2 a formal act; ceremony

for·mal·ize (fôr'mə līz') *vt.* -ized', -iz'ing 1 to shape 2 to make formal — **for'mal·i·za'tion** *n.*

for'mal·wear' *n.* formal clothes, as tuxedos

for·mat (fôr'mat') *n.* [*< L formatus, formed*] 1 the shape, size, and arrangement of a book, etc. 2 the arrangement or plan, as of a TV program 3 a specific way in which computer data is stored, processed, etc. 4 a particular type of audio or video record-

ing and playback system —*vt.* -mat'ted, -mat'ting to arrange according to a format

for·ma·tion (fôr mā'shən) *n.* 1 a forming or being formed 2 a thing formed 3 the way in which something is formed; structure 4 an arrangement or positioning, as of troops

form·a·tive (fôr'mə tiv) *adj.* helping or involving formation or development

for·mer (fôr'mər) *adj.* [*ME formere*] 1 earlier; past [*in former times*] 2 being the first mentioned of two

for'mer·ly *adv.* in the past

form'-fit'ting *adj.* fitting the body closely: also **form'fit'ting**

for·mic (fôr'mik) *adj.* [*< L formica, ant*] designating a colorless acid found in ants, spiders, etc.

For·mi·ca (fôr mī'kə) *trademark* for a laminated, heat-resistant plastic used for counter tops, etc.

for·mi·da·ble (fôr'mə də bəl, fôr mid'ə bəl) *adj.* [*< L formidare, to dread*] 1 causing fear, dread, or awe 2 hard to handle

form'less *adj.* shapeless; amorphous

form letter a standardized letter, usually one of many, with the date, address, etc. added separately

for·mu·la (fôr'myōō lə, -myə-) *n., pl.* -las or -lae' (-lē', -lī') [*L < forma, form*] 1 a fixed form of words, esp. a conventional expression 2 a conventional rule for doing something 3 a prescription or recipe 4 fortified milk for a baby 5 a set of symbols expressing a mathematical rule, fact, etc. 6 *Chem.* an expression of the composition, as of a compound, using symbols and figures

for'mu·late' (-lāt') *vt.* -lat'ed, -lat'ing 1 to express in a formula 2 to express in a definite way 3 to work out in one's mind; devise — **for'mu·la'tion** *n.* — **for'mu·la'tor** *n.*

for·ni·cate (fôr'ni kāt') *vi.* --cat'ed, -cat'ing [*< L fornix, a brothel*] to commit fornication — **for'ni·ca'tor** *n.*

for'ni·ca'tion *n.* sexual intercourse between unmarried persons

for·sake (fôr sāk') *vt.* -sook' (-sook'), -sak'en, -sak'ing [*< OE for-, FOR- + sacan, to strive*] 1 to give up (a habit, etc.) 2 to leave; abandon

for·sooth (fôr soōth') *adv.* [*ME forsoth*] [*Archaic*] indeed

for·swear (fôr swer') *vt.* -swore', -sworn', -swear'ing to deny or renounce on oath —*vi.* to commit perjury

for·syth·i·a (fôr sith'ē ə, fər-) *n.* [*after W. Forsyth (1737-1804), Eng botanist*] a shrub with yellow, bell-shaped flowers that bloom in early spring

fort (fôrt) *n.* [*< L fortis, strong*] 1 a fortified place for military defense 2 a permanent army post

forte¹ (fôrt; often fôr'tā') *n.* [*< OFr: see prec.*] that which one does particularly well

for·te² (fôr'tā') *adj., adv.* [*It < L fortis, strong*] [*also in italics*] Music loud

forth (fôrth) *adv.* [*OE*] 1 forward; onward 2 out into view

Forth (fôrth), Firth of long estuary of the

Forth River in SE Scotland

forth'com'ing *adj.* 1 about to appear; approaching 2 ready when needed 3 friendly, outgoing, etc. 4 open; frank

forth'right *adj.* direct and frank

forth'with (-with', -with') *adv.* at once

for-ti-fy (fôrt'ə fī') *vt.* -fied', -fy'ing [*< L fortis, strong + facere, to make*] 1 to strengthen physically, emotionally, etc. 2 to strengthen against attack, as with forts 3 to support 4 to add alcohol to (wine, etc.) 5 to add vitamins, etc. to (milk, etc.) —**for-ti-fi-ca'tion** *n.* —**for'ti-fi'er** *n.*

for-tis-si-mo (fôr tis'ə mō') *adj., adv.* [*It, superl. of forte, strong*] [*also in italics*] *Music* very loud

for-ti-tude (fôrt'ə tōd') *n.* [*< L fortis, strong*] patient endurance of trouble, pain, etc.; courage

Fort Knox (nāks) military reservation in N Kentucky: site of U.S. gold bullion depository

Fort Lau-der-dale (lô'dər dāl') city on the SE coast of Florida: pop. 149,000

fort-night (fôrt'nīt') *n.* [*< OE feowertyn niht, lit., fourteen nights*] [*Chiefly Brit.*] a period of two weeks — **fort'nightly** *adj., adv.*

for-tress (fôr'tris) *n.* [*< L fortis, strong*] a fortified place; fort

for-tu-i-tous (fôr tōō'ə tās) *adj.* [*< L fors, luck*] 1 happening by chance 2 lucky —**for-tu'i-tous-ly** *adv.*

for-tu-nate (fôr'chə nət) *adj.* 1 having good luck 2 coming by good luck; favorable —**for'tu-nate-ly** *adv.*

for-tune (fôr'chən) *n.* [*< L fors, luck*] 1 luck; chance; fate 2 [*also pl.*] one's future lot, good or bad 3 good luck; success 4 wealth; riches

for'tune-tell'er *n.* one who professes to foretell the future of others —**for'tune-tell'ing** *n., adj.*

Fort Wayne (wān) city in NE Indiana: pop. 173,000

Fort Worth (wərth) city in N Texas: pop. 448,000

for-ty (fôrt'ē) *adj., n., pl. -ties* [*OE feowertig*] four times ten; 40; XL —the **forties** the numbers or years, as of a century, from 40 through 49 —**for'ti-eth** (-ith) *adj.*

fo-rum (fôr'əm) *n.* [*L*] 1 the public square of an ancient Roman city 2 an assembly, program, etc. for the discussion of public matters

for-ward (fôr'wərd) *adj.* [*OE foreweard*] 1 at, toward, or of the front 2 advanced 3 onward; advancing 4 prompt; ready 5 bold; presumptuous 6 of or for the future —*adv.* toward the front; ahead —*n.* *Basketball, Hockey, etc.* a player positioned ahead of the rest of the team, esp. when on the offense —*vt.* 1 to promote 2 to send on

for'wards *adv.* FORWARD

fos-sil (fäs'əl) *n.* [*< L fossilis, dug up*] 1 any hardened remains of a plant or animal of a previous geologic period, preserved in the earth's crust 2 a person with outmoded ideas or ways —*adj.* 1 of or like a fossil 2 dug from the earth [*coal is a fossil fuel*] 3 antiquated

fos'sil-ize (-īz') *vt., vi.* -ized', -iz'ing 1 to change into a fossil 2 to make or become out of date, rigid, etc. —**fos'sil-i-za'tion** *n.*

fos-ter (fôs'tər) *vt.* [*OE fostrian, to nourish*] 1 to bring up; rear 2 to help to develop; promote —*adj.* having a specified standing in a family but not by birth or adoption [*a foster brother*]

fought (fôt) *vi., vt. pt. & pp. of FIGHT*

foul (foul) *adj.* [*OE ful*] 1 stinking; loathsome 2 extremely dirty 3 indecent; profane 4 wicked; abominable 5 stormy [*foul weather*] 6 tangled [*a foul rope*] 7 not within the limits or rules set 8 designating lines setting limits on a playing area 9 dishonest 10 [*Inf.*] unpleasant, disagreeable, etc. —*adv.* in a foul manner —*n.* *Sports* a hit, blow, move, etc. that is FOUL (*adj.* 7) —*vt.* 1 to make filthy 2 to dishonor 3 to obstruct [*grease fouls drains*] 4 to entangle (a rope, etc.) 5 to make a foul against, as in a game 6 *Baseball* to bat (the ball) foul —*vi.* to be or become fouled —**foul up** [*Inf.*] to bungle — **foul'ly** *adv.* —**foul'ness** *n.*

fou-lard (fōō lărd') *n.* [*Fr*] a lightweight printed fabric of silk, etc.

foul'-up *n.* [*Inf.*] a mix-up; botch

found¹ (found) [*OE funden*] *vt., vi. pp. & pt. of FIND*

found² (found) *vt.* [*< L fundus, bottom*] 1 to set for support; base 2 to bring into being; set up; establish —**found'er** *n.*

found³ (found) *vt.* [*< L fundere, pour*] 1 to melt and pour (metal) into a mold 2 to make by founding metal

foun-da-tion (foun dā'shən) *n.* 1 a founding or being founded; establishment 2 *a)* an endowment for an institution *b)* such an institution 3 basis 4 the base of a wall, house, etc. 5 cosmetic over which other makeup is applied

foun-der (foun'dər) *vi.* [*< L fundus, bottom*] 1 to stumble, fall, or go lame 2 to fill with water and sink: said of a ship 3 to break down

found-ling (found'lin') *n.* an infant of unknown parents, found abandoned

found-ry (foun'drē) *n., pl. -ries* a place where metal is cast

fount (fount) *n.* [*< L fons*] 1 [*Old Poet.*] a fountain or spring 2 a source

foun-tain (fount'n) *n.* [*< L fons*] 1 a natural spring of water 2 a source 3 *a)* an artificial jet or flow of water [*a drinking fountain*] *b)* the basin where this flows 4 a reservoir, as for ink

foun'tain-head *n.* the source, as of a stream

fountain pen a pen which is fed ink from its own reservoir or cartridge

four (fôr) *adj., n.* [*OE feower*] one more than three; 4; IV

four'-flush'er (-flush'ər) *n.* [*< FLUSH*²] [*Inf.*] one who bluffs in an effort to deceive

four'-in-hand *n.* a necktie tied in a slipknot with the ends left hanging

four'score' *adj.*, *n.* four times twenty; eighty

four'some (-səm) *n.* four people

four-square (fôr'skwər') *adj.* 1 square 2 unyielding; firm 3 frank; forthright —*adv.* in a square form or manner

four-teen (fôr'tēn') *adj.*, *n.* [OE *feowertyne*] four more than ten; 14; XIV —**four'teenth'** *adj.*, *n.*

fourth (fôrth) *adj.* [OE *feortha*] preceded by three others in a series; 4th — *n.* 1 the one following the third 2 any of the four equal parts of something; $\frac{1}{4}$ 3 the fourth forward gear

fourth'-class' *adj.*, *adv.* of or in a class of mail consisting of merchandise, printed matter, etc. not included in first-class, second-class, or third-class; parcel post

fourth dimension in the theory of relativity, time added as a dimension to those of length, width, and depth

fourth estate [often F- E-] journalism or journalists

Fourth of July see INDEPENDENCE DAY

4WD *abbrev.* four-wheel-drive (vehicle)

four'-wheel' *adj.* 1 having four wheels 2 affecting four wheels [a *four-wheel drive*]

fowl (foul) *n.* [OE *fugol*] 1 any bird 2 any of the domestic birds used as food, as the chicken, duck, etc. 3 the flesh of these birds used for food

fox (fäks) *n.* [OE] 1 a small, wild animal of the dog family, considered sly and crafty 2 its fur 3 a sly, crafty person —*vt.* to trick by slyness

fox'glove' *n.* DIGITALIS

fox'hole' *n.* a hole dug in the ground as a protection against enemy gunfire

fox'hound' *n.* a sturdy breed of hound that is trained to hunt foxes

fox terrier a small terrier with a smooth or wiry coat, formerly trained to drive foxes from hiding

fox trot a dance for couples in 4/4 time, or music for it —**fox'-trot'**, **-trot'ted**, **-trot'ting**, *vi.*

fox'y *adj.* -i-er, -i-est 1 foxlike; crafty; sly 2 [Slang] attractive or sexy: used esp. of women

foy-er (foi'ər; also foi'ā', -yā') *n.* [Fr < L *focus*, hearth] an entrance hall or lobby, as in a theater or hotel

Fr *abbrev.* 1 Father 2 French

frab-jous (frab'jəs) *adj.* [coined by Lewis CARROLL] [Inf.] splendid; fine

fra-cas (frā'kəs) *n.* [Fr < It *fracassare*, to smash] a noisy fight; brawl

frac-tion (frak'shən) *n.* [< L *frangere*, to break] 1 a small part, amount, etc. 2 *Math.* a) a quotient of two whole numbers, as $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{3}{4}$ b) any quantity expressed in terms of a numerator and denominator —**frac'tion-al** *adj.* —**frac'tion-al-ly** *adv.*

frac-tious (frak'shəs) *adj.* [< ?] 1 hard to manage; unruly; rebellious 2 peevish; irritable; cross —**frac'tious-ly** *adv.* —**frac'tious-ness** *n.*

frac-ture (frak'chər) *n.* [< L *frangere*, to break] a breaking or break, esp. in a

bone —*vt.*, *vi.* -tured, -tur-ing to break, crack, or split

frag-ile (frāj'əl) *adj.* [< L *frangere*, to break] easily broken or damaged; delicate —**fra-gil-i-ty** (frā jil'ə tē) *n.*

frag-ment (frag'mənt; *for v.*, also, -ment') *n.* [< L *frangere*, to break] 1 a part broken away 2 an incomplete part, as of a novel —*vt.*, *vi.* to break up —**frag'men-ta'tion** (-mən tā'shən) *n.*

frag'men-tar'y (-mən ter'ē) *adj.* consisting of fragments; not complete

fra-grant (frā'grənt) *adj.* [< L *fragrare*, to emit a (sweet) smell] having a pleasant odor; sweet-smelling —**fra'grance** *n.* —**fra'grant-ly** *adv.*

frail (frāl) *adj.* [see FRAGILE] 1 easily broken; delicate 2 not robust; weak 3 easily tempted; morally weak —**frail'ly** *adv.*

frail'ty (-tē) *n.* 1 a being frail; esp., moral weakness 2 *pl.* -ties a fault arising from such weakness

frame (frām) *vt.* **framed**, **fram'ing** [prob. < ON *frami*, profit or benefit] 1 to form according to a pattern; design [to *frame laws*] 2 to construct 3 to put into words [to *frame an excuse*] 4 to enclose (a picture, etc.) in a border 5 [Inf.] to falsify evidence in order to make (an innocent person) appear guilty —*n.* 1 body structure 2 the framework, as of a house 3 the structural case enclosing a window, door, etc. 4 an ornamental border, as around a picture 5 the way anything is put together; form 6 condition; state [a good *frame of mind*] 7 one exposure in a strip of film 8 *Bowling, etc.* a division of a game —*adj.* having a wooden framework [a *frame house*] —**fram'er** *n.*

frame'-up' *n.* [Inf.] a secret, deceitful scheme, as a falsifying of evidence to make a person seem guilty

frame'work' *n.* 1 a structure to hold together or support something 2 the basic structure, system, etc.

franc (frank) *n.* [Fr < L *Francorum rex*, king of the French, phrase on the coin in 1360] 1 the former monetary unit of France, Belgium, and Luxembourg, superseded in 2002 by the EURO 2 the monetary unit of Chad, Mali, etc.

France (frans, fräns) country in W Europe: 210,033 sq. mi.; pop. 56,615,000

fran-chise (fran'chiz') *n.* [< OFr *franc*, free] 1 any special right or privilege granted by a government 2 the right to vote; suffrage 3 the right to sell a product or service —*vt.* -chised', -chis'ing to grant a franchise to

Franco- combining form French, French and

fran-gi-ble (fran'jə bəl) *adj.* [< L *frangere*, to break] breakable; fragile

frank (frank) *adj.* [< OFr *franc*, free] free in expressing oneself; candid —*vt.* to send (mail) free of postage —*n.* 1 the right to send mail free 2 a mark indicating this right —**frank'ly** *adv.* —**frank'ness** *n.*

Frank (frank) *n.* a member of the Germanic peoples whose 9th-c. empire extended over what is now France, Ger-

many, and Italy

Frank-en-stein (fran'kən stīn') *n.* 1 the title character in a novel (1818), creator of a monster that destroys him 2 popularly, the monster 3 anything that becomes dangerous to its creator

Frank-fort (fran'k'fərt) capital of Kentucky: pop. 26,000

Frank-furt (fran'k'fərt; *Ger* fränk'foort) city in W Germany: pop. 656,000

frank-furt-er (fran'k'fər tər) *n.* [*Ger*: after prec.] a smoked sausage of beef, beef and pork, etc.; wiener: also [*Inf.*] frank

frank-in-cense (fran'kin sens') *n.* [*see* FRANK & INCENSE¹] a gum resin burned as incense

Frank-ish (fran'kish) *n.* the West Germanic language of the Franks —*adj.* of the Franks or their language, etc.

Frank-lin (fran'klin), **Ben-ja-min** (ben'jə mən) 1706-90; Am. statesman, scientist, inventor, & writer

fran-tic (fran'tik) *adj.* [*< Gr phrenitis, delirium*] wild with anger, pain, worry, etc. —*fran'ti-cal-ly adv.*

frap-pé (fra pā') *n.* [*Fr < frapper, to strike*] 1 a dessert made of partly frozen fruit juices, etc. 2 a beverage poured over shaved ice 3 [*New England*] a milkshake Also, esp. for 3, **frappe** (frap)

fra-ter-nal (frə tər'nəl) *adj.* [*< L frater, brother*] 1 of brothers; brotherly 2 designating or of a society organized for fellowship 3 designating twins developed from separate ova and thus not identical —*fra-ter'nal-ly adv.*

fra-ter-ni-ty (frə tər'nə tē) *n., pl. -ties* 1 brotherliness 2 a group of men joined together for fellowship, etc., as in college 3 a group of people with the same beliefs, work, etc.

frat-er-nize (frat'ər nīz') *vi.* -nized', -niz'ing to associate in a friendly way —*frat'er-ni-za'tion n.*

frat-ri-cide (fra'trə sīd') *n.* [*< L frater, brother + caedere, to kill*] 1 the killing of one's own brother or sister 2 one who commits fratricide —*frat'ri-ci'dal adj.*

Frau (frou) *n., pl. Frau'en* (-ən) [*Ger*] 1 Mrs.; Madam: a German title of respect, used to address a married woman and now also a single woman 2 a wife

fraud (frôd) *n.* [*< L fraus*] 1 deceit; trickery 2 *Law* intentional deception 3 a trick 4 an impostor or cheat

fraud-u-lent (frô'jə lənt) *adj.* 1 based on or using fraud 2 done or obtained by fraud —*fraud'u-lence n.* —*fraud'u-lent-ly adv.*

fraught (frôt) *adj.* [*< MDu vracht, a load*] 1 filled or loaded (*with*) [*a life fraught with hardship*] 2 tense, anxious, etc.

Fräu-lein (froi'lin'; *E* froi'-) *n., pl. -lein'* or *Eng. -leins'* [*Ger*] 1 Miss: a German title of respect 2 an unmarried woman: see note at FRAU

fray¹ (frā) *n.* [*< AFFRAY*] a noisy quarrel or fight; brawl

fray² (frā) *vt., vi.* [*< L fricare, to rub*] 1

to make or become worn or ragged 2 to make or become weakened or strained

fraz-zle (fraz'əl) [*Inf.*] *vt., vi.* -zled, -zling [*< dial. fazle*] 1 to wear to tatters; fray 2 to make or become exhausted —*n.* the state of being frazzled

freak (frēk) *n.* [*< ?*] 1 an odd notion; whim 2 an unusual happening 3 any abnormal animal, person, or plant 4 [*Slang*] *a*) a user of a specified drug *b*) a devotee; buff [*a chess freak*] —*adj.* oddly different; abnormal —*freak out* [*Slang*] 1 to have hallucinations, etc., as from a psychedelic drug 2 to make or become very excited, distressed, etc. —*freak'ish* or *freak'y, -i-er, -i-est, adj.* —*freak'ish-ly adv.*

freak'out *n.* [*Slang*] the act or an instance of freaking out

freck-le (frek'əl) *n.* [*< Scand*] a small, brownish spot on the skin —*vt., vi.* -led, -ling to make or become spotted with freckles —*freck'led adj.*

Fred-er-ick the Great (fred'rik, -ər ik) 1712-86; king of Prussia (1740-86)

Fred-er-ic-ton (fred'ə rik tən) capital of New Brunswick, Canada: pop. 47,000

free (frē) *adj.* *fre'er, fre'est* [*< OE freo*] 1 not under the control or power of another; having liberty; independent 2 having civil and political liberty 3 able to move in any direction; loose 4 not burdened by obligations, debts, discomforts, etc. 5 not confined to the usual rules [*free verse*] 6 not exact [*a free translation*] 7 generous; profuse [*a free spender*] 8 frank 9 with no charge or cost 10 exempt from taxes, duties, etc. 11 clear of obstructions [*a free road ahead*] 12 not fastened [*a rope's free end*] —*adv.* 1 without cost 2 in a free manner —*vt.* *freed, free'ing* to make free; specif., *a*) to release from bondage or arbitrary power, obligation, etc. *b*) to clear of obstruction, etc. —*free from* (or *of*) without —*free up* to make available for use [*he freed up funds*] —*make free with* to use freely —*free'ly adv.* —*free'ness n.*

-free (frē) *combining form* free of or from, exempt from, without

free'base *n.* a concentrated form of cocaine for smoking —*vt., vi.* -based', -bas'ing to prepare or use such a form of (cocaine)

free-bie or **free-bee** (frē'bē) *n.* [*Slang*] something given or gotten free of charge, as a theater ticket

free'boot'er (-bōōt'ər) *n.* [*< Du vrij, free + buit, plunder*] a pirate

freed-man (frēd'mən) *n., pl. -men* (-mən) a man legally freed from slavery

free-dom (frē'dəm) *n.* 1 a being free; esp., *a*) independence *b*) civil or political liberty *c*) exemption from an obligation, discomfort, etc. *d*) a being able to act, use, etc. freely *e*) ease of movement *f*) frankness 2 a right or privilege

free fall any unchecked fall, as of a parachutist before the parachute opens

free flight any flight or part of a flight,

- as of a rocket, occurring without propulsion — **free'-flight' adj.**
- free'-for-all' n.** a disorganized, general fight; brawl — **adj.** open to anyone
- free'-form' adj.** 1 irregular in shape 2 spontaneous, unrestrained, etc.
- free'hand' adj.** drawn by hand without the use of instruments, etc.
- free'hold' n.** an estate in land held for life or with the right to pass it on to heirs — **free'holder n.**
- free-lance or free-lance (frē'lans') n.** a writer, artist, etc. who sells his or her services to individual buyers: also **free'lanc'er or free'-lanc'er — adj.** of or working as a freelance — **vi. -lanced', -lanc'ing** to work as a freelance
- free'load'er (-lōd'ər) n.** [Inf.] a person who habitually imposes on others for free food, etc. — **free'load' vi.**
- free-man (frē'mən) n., pl. -men (-mən)** 1 a person not in slavery 2 a citizen
- Free-ma-son (frē'mā'sən) n.** a member of an international secret society based on brotherliness and mutual aid — **Free'ma'son-ry n.**
- free on board** delivered (by the seller) aboard the train, ship, etc. at no extra charge to the buyer
- free'stone' n.** a peach, etc. in which the pit does not cling to the pulp
- free'think'er n.** one who forms opinions about religion, morals, etc. independently
- Free'town' seaport & capital of Sierra Leone: pop. 470,000**
- free trade** trade carried on without protective tariffs, quotas, etc.
- free verse** poetry without regular meter, rhyme, etc.
- free'way' n.** a multiple-lane divided highway with fully controlled access
- free'will' adj.** voluntary
- freeze (frēz) vi. froze, fro'zen, freez'ing** [OE *freosan*] 1 to be formed into, or become covered with, ice; be solidified by cold 2 to become very cold 3 to be damaged or killed by cold 4 to become motionless 5 to be made speechless by strong emotion 6 to become formal or unfriendly — **vt.** 1 to form into, or cover with, ice; solidify by cold 2 to make very cold 3 to preserve (food) by rapid refrigeration 4 to kill or damage by cold 5 to make motionless 6 to make formal or unfriendly 7 *a*) to fix (prices, etc.) at a given level by authority *b*) to make (funds, etc.) unavailable to the owners — **n.** 1 a freezing or being frozen 2 a period of freezing weather — **freeze out** 1 to die out through freezing, as plants do 2 [Inf.] to keep out by a cold manner, competition, etc. — **freeze over** to become covered with ice — **freez'a-ble adj.**
- freeze'-dry' vt. -dried', -dry'ing** to quick-freeze (food, etc.) and then dry under high vacuum
- freez'er n.** 1 a refrigerator, compartment, etc. for freezing and storing perishable foods 2 a machine for making ice cream

freezing point the temperature at which a liquid freezes: the freezing point of water is 32°F or 0°C

freight (frāt) n. [*< MDu vracht, a load*] 1 the transporting of goods by water, land, or air 2 the cost for this 3 the goods transported 4 a railroad train for transporting goods: in full **freight train** — **vt.** 1 to load; burden 2 to send by freight

freight'er n. a ship for freight

Fre-mont (frē'mänt) city in W California, on San Francisco Bay: pop. 173,000

French (french) adj. of France or its people, language, etc. — **n.** the language of France — **the French** the people of France — **French'man (-mən), pl. -men (-mən), n.**

French bread bread with a crisp crust made with white flour in a long, slender loaf

French cuff a shirt-sleeve cuff turned back on itself and fastened with a cuff link

French doors a pair of doors hinged at the sides to open in the middle

French dressing a creamy, orange-colored salad dressing

French fries [often *f- f-*] strips of potato that have been French fried

French fry [often *f- f-*] to fry in hot deep fat

French Gui-a-na (gē an'ə, -ä'nə) French administrative division in NE South America

French horn a mellow-toned brass instrument with a long, spiral tube and a flaring bell: in classical music, now usually *horn*

French leave an unauthorized departure

French toast sliced bread dipped in a batter of egg and milk and then fried

fre-net-ic (frə net'ik) adj. [see PHRENETIC] frantic; frenzied — **fre-net'i-cal-ly adv.**

fren-zy (fren'zē) n., pl. -zies [*< Gr phrenitis, madness*] wild excitement; delirium

Fre-on (frē'än') trademark for any of a series of gaseous compounds of fluorine, carbon, etc.: used as refrigerants, aerosol propellants, etc.

fre-quen-cy (frē'kwən sē) n., pl. -cies 1 frequent occurrence 2 the number of times any event recurs in a given period 3 *Physics* the number of oscillations or cycles per unit of time

frequency modulation the variation of the frequency of a carrier wave in accordance with the signal being broadcast: abbrev. *FM*

fre-quent (frē'kwənt; for v. frē kwent') adj. [*< L frequens, crowded*] 1 occurring often 2 constant; habitual — **vt.** to go to or be at often — **fre'quent-ly adv.**

fres-co (fres'kō) n., pl. -coes or -cos [It, fresh] a painting made with watercolors on wet plaster

fresh¹ (fresh) adj. [OE *fersc*] 1 recently made, grown, etc. [*fresh coffee*] 2 not salted, pickled, frozen, etc. 3 not spoiled 4 not tired; lively 5 not worn, soiled, faded, etc. 6 new; recent 7

inexperienced 8 cool and refreshing [a fresh spring day] 9 brisk: said of wind 10 not salt: said of water —**fresh'ly** *adv.* —**fresh'ness** *n.*

fresh² (fresh) *adj.* [*< Ger frech, bold*] [Slang] bold; saucy; impertinent

fresh'en *vt., vi.* to make or become fresh —**freshen up** to bathe, change into fresh clothes, etc. —**fresh'en-er** *n.*

fresh'man (-mən) *n., pl. -men* (-mən) [*FRESH¹ + MAN*] 1 a beginner 2 a person in his or her first year in college, Congress, etc.

fresh'wa'ter *adj.* 1 of or living in water that is not salty 2 sailing only on inland waters

Fres·no (frez'nō) *n.* city in central California: pop. 354,000

fret¹ (fret) *vt., vi.* **fret'ted**, **fret'ting** [*OE fretan, to devour*] 1 to gnaw, wear away, rub, etc. 2 to make or become rough or disturbed [wind fretting the water] 3 to irritate or be irritated; worry —*n.* irritation; worry —**fret'ter** *n.*

fret² (fret) *n.* [*ME frette*] a running design of interlacing small bars

fret³ (fret) *n.* [*OFr frette, a band*] any of the ridges on the fingerboard of a banjo, guitar, etc.

fret'ful (-fəl) *adj.* irritable; peevish —**fret'ful-ly** *adv.* —**fret'ful-ness** *n.*

fret'work' *n.* decorative carving or openwork, as of interlacing lines

Freud (frɔɪd), **Sig·mund** (sig'mənd) 1856-1939; Austrian physician: founder of psychoanalysis —**Freud'i-an** *adj., n.*

Freudian slip a mistake made in speaking that, it is thought, inadvertently reveals unconscious motives, desires, etc.

Fri *abbrev.* Friday

fri·a·ble (fri'ə bəl) *adj.* [*Fr < L friare, to rub*] easily crumbled

fri·ar (fri'ər) *n.* [*< L frater, brother*] *R.C.Ch.* a member of certain religious orders

fric-as-see (frik'ə sē', frik'ə sē') *n.* [*< Fr fricasser, cut up and fry*] a dish consisting of meat cut into pieces, stewed or fried, and served in a sauce of its own gravy —*vt.* **-seed'**, **-see'ing** to prepare in this way

fric·tion (frik'shən) *n.* [*< L fricare, to rub*] 1 a rubbing of one object against another 2 conflict, as because of differing opinions 3 *Mech.* the resistance to motion of moving surfaces that touch —**fric'tion-al** *adj.* —**fric'tion-less** *adj.*

Fri·day (fri'dā) *n.* [*after Frigg, Germanic goddess*] 1 the sixth day of the week 2 [*after the devoted servant of ROBINSON CRUSOE*] a faithful helper: usually man (or girl) Friday

fridge (frij) *n.* [*Inf.*] a refrigerator

fried (frɪd) *vt., vi. pt. & pp. of FRY¹*

fried'cake' *n.* a small cake fried in deep fat; doughnut or cruller

friend (frend) *n.* [*OE freond*] 1 a person whom one knows well and is fond of 2 an ally, supporter, or sympathizer 3 [*F-*] a member of the Society of Friends; Quaker —**make (or be) friends with** to become (or be) a friend of —**friend'less** *adj.*

friend'ly *adj.* **-li-er**, **-li-est** 1 of or like a friend; kindly 2 not hostile; amicable 3 supporting; helping —**friend'li-ly** *adv.* —**friend'li-ness** *n.*

friend'ship' *n.* 1 the state of being friends 2 friendly feeling

fries (frɪz) *pl.n.* [*Inf.*] short for FRENCH FRIES

frieze (frēz) *n.* [*< ML frisium*] an ornamental band with designs or carvings, positioned along a wall, around a room, etc.

frig·ate (frig'it) *n.* [*< It fregata*] a fast, medium-sized sailing warship of the 18th and early 19th c.

fright (frɪt) *n.* [*OE fyrhto*] 1 sudden fear; alarm 2 an ugly, startling, etc. person or thing

fright'en *vt.* 1 to make suddenly afraid; scare 2 to force (*away, out, or off*) by scaring —**fright'en-ing-ly** *adv.*

fright'ful (-fəl) *adj.* 1 causing fright; alarming 2 shocking; terrible 3 [*Inf.*] a) unpleasant; annoying b) great [in a frightful hurry] —**fright'ful-ly** *adv.* —**fright'ful-ness** *n.*

frig·id (frij'id) *adj.* [*< L frigus, coldness*] 1 extremely cold 2 not warm or friendly 3 sexually unresponsive: said of a woman —**fri-gid-i-ty** (fri jid'ə tē) *n.* —**frig'id-ly** *adv.*

Frigid Zone either of two zones (North Frigid Zone or South Frigid Zone) between the polar circles and the poles

frill (frɪl) *n.* [*< ?*] 1 any unnecessary ornament 2 a ruffle —**frill'y**, **-i-er**, **-i-est**, *adj.*

fringe (frɪnj) *n.* [*< LL fimbria*] 1 a border of threads, etc. hanging loose or tied in bunches 2 an outer edge; border 3 a marginal or minor part —*vt.* **fringed**, **fring'ing** to be or make a fringe for —*adj.* 1 at the outer edge 2 additional 3 minor

fringe benefit any form of employee compensation other than wages, as insurance or a pension

frip·per·y (frip'ər ē) *n., pl. -ies* [*< OFr frepe, a rag*] 1 cheap, gaudy clothes 2 showy display in dress, manners, etc.

Fris·bee (frɪz'bē) [*< "Mother Frisbie's" pie tins*] trademark for a saucer-shaped plastic disk sailed back and forth in a simple game —*n.* [*also f-*] 1 such a disk 2 the game

fri·sé (frē zā', fri-) *n.* [*Fr < friser, to curl*] an upholstery fabric with a thick pile in loops

Fri·sian (frɪz'hən) *n.* the West Germanic language of an island chain, the Frisian Islands, along the coast of N Netherlands, Germany, & Denmark

frisk (frɪsk) *vi.* [*< OHG frisc, lively*] to move about in a lively way; frolic —*vt.* [*Slang*] to search (a person) for weapons, etc. by passing the hands quickly over the person's clothing

frisk·y (frɪsk'ē) *adj.* **-i-er**, **-i-est** lively; frolicsome —**frisk'i-ly** *adv.* —**frisk'i-ness** *n.*

frit·ter¹ (frit'ər) *vt.* [*< L frangere, to break*] to waste (money, time, etc.) bit by bit: usually with *away*

frit-ter² (frit'ər) *n.* [*< L frigere, to fry*] a small cake of fried batter, usually containing corn, fruit, etc.

friv-o-lous (friv'ə ləs) *adj.* [*< L frivolus, silly*] 1 of little value; trivial 2 silly and light-minded; giddy —**frivol-i-ty** (fri vāl'ə tē), *pl. -ties, n.* —**friv'o-lous-ly** *adv.*

frizz or **friz** (friz) *vt., vi.* **frizzed, friz'zing** [*Fr friser*] to form into small, tight curls —*n.* hair, etc. that is frizzed —**friz'zy, -zi-er, -zi-est, adj.**

friz-zle¹ (friz'əl) *vi., vt. -zled, -zling* [*< FRY*¹] to sizzle, as in frying

friz-zle² (friz'əl) *n., vt., vi. -zled, -zling* **FRIZZ** —**friz'zly** *adj.*

fro (frō) *adv.* [*< ON frā*] backward; back: now only in TO AND FRO (at TO)

frock (frāk) *n.* [*< OFr froc*] 1 a robe worn by friars, monks, etc. 2 a dress

frog (frōg, fräg) *n.* [*OE frogga*] 1 a tailless, leaping amphibian with long hind legs and webbed feet 2 a fancy loop of braid used to fasten clothing —**frog in one's throat** temporary hoarseness

frog'man' *n., pl. -men' (-men')* a person trained and equipped for underwater demolition, exploration, etc.

frol-ic (fräl'ik) *n.* [*< MDu vrō, merry*] 1 a lively party or game 2 merriment; fun —*vi. -icked, -ick-ing* 1 to make merry; have fun 2 to romp about; gambol —**frol'ick-er** *n.*

frol'ic-some (-səm) *adj.* playful; merry

from (frum) *prep.* [*OE*] 1 beginning at; starting with [*from noon to midnight*] 2 out of [*from her purse*] 3 originating with [*a letter from me*] 4 out of the possibility of or use of [*kept from going*] 5 as not being like [*to know good from evil*] 6 because of [*to tremble from fear*]

frond (fränd) *n.* [*< L frons, leafy branch*] the leaf of a fern or palm

front (frunt) *n.* [*< L frons, forehead*] 1 *a)* outward behavior [*a bold front*] *b)* [*Inf.*] an appearance of social standing, wealth, etc. 2 the part facing forward 3 the first part; beginning 4 a forward or leading position 5 the land bordering a lake, street, etc. 6 the advanced battle area in warfare 7 an area of activity [*the home front*] 8 a person or group used to hide another's activity 9 *Meteorol.* the boundary between two differing air masses —*adj.* at, to, in, on, or of the front —*vt., vi.* 1 to face 2 to serve as a front (*for*) —**in front of** before —**fron'tal** *adj.*

front-age (frunt'ij) *n.* 1 the front part of a building 2 the front boundary line of a lot or the length of this line 3 land bordering a street, lake, etc.

fron-tier (frun tir') *n.* [*see FRONT*] 1 the border between two countries 2 the part of a country which borders an unexplored region 3 any new field of learning, etc. or any part of a field that is not fully investigated —*adj.* of, on, or near a frontier —**fron-tiers'man** (-tirz'mən), *pl. -men (-mən), n.*

fron-tis-piece (frunt'is pēs') *n.* [*ult. < L frons, front + specere, to look*] an illus-

tration facing the title page of a book
front office the management or administration, as of a company

front'-run'ner *n.* a leading contestant

front'-wheel' drive an automotive design in which only the front wheels receive driving power

frost (frôst, fräst) *n.* [*OE < freosan, to freeze*] 1 a temperature low enough to cause freezing 2 frozen dew or vapor; rime —*vt.* 1 to cover with frost 2 to cover with frosting 3 to give a frostlike, opaque surface to (glass) —**frost'y, -i-er, -i-est, adj.**

Frost (frôst, fräst), **Robert (Lee)** (ră'bərt) 1874-1963; U.S. poet

frost'bite' *vt. -bit', -bit'ten, -bit'ing* to injure the tissues of (a body part) by exposing to intense cold —*n.* injury caused by such exposure

frost'ing *n.* 1 a mixture of sugar, butter, flavoring, etc. for covering a cake; icing 2 a dull finish on glass, metal, etc.

frost line the limit of penetration of soil by frost

froth (frôth, fräth) *n.* [*< ON frotha*] 1 foam 2 foaming saliva 3 light, trifling talk, ideas, etc. —*vi.* to foam —**froth'y, -i-er, -i-est, adj.**

frou-frou (frōō'frōō') *n.* [*Fr*] [*Inf.*] excessive ornateness

fro-ward (frō'wərd, -ərd) *adj.* [*see FRO & -WARD*] not easily controlled; willful; contrary —**fro'ward-ness** *n.*

frown (froun) *vi.* [*< OFr froigne, sullen face*] 1 to contract the brows, as in displeasure 2 to show disapproval: with *on* or *upon* —*n.* a frowning

frow-zy (frou'zē) *adj. -zi-er, -zi-est* [*< ?*] dirty and untidy; slovenly —**frow'zi-ly** *adv.* —**frow'zi-ness** *n.*

froze (frōz) *vi., vt. pt. of FREEZE*

fro-zen (frō'zən) *vi., vt. pp. of FREEZE* —*adj.* 1 turned into or covered with ice; solidified by cold 2 damaged or killed by freezing 3 preserved by freezing: said as of food 4 made motionless 5 kept at a fixed level 6 not readily convertible into cash [*frozen assets*]

frozen custard a food resembling ice cream, but softer and with less butterfat

fruc-ti-fy (fruk'tə fī') *vi., vt. -fied', -fy'ing* [*< L fructificare*] to bear or cause to bear fruit

fruc-tose (fruk'tōs', frook'-) *n.* [*< L fructus, fruit + -OSE*¹] a sugar found in sweet fruits and in honey

fru-gal (frōō'gəl) *adj.* [*< L frugi, fit for food*] 1 not wasteful; thrifty 2 inexpensive or meager —**fru-gal'i-ty** (-gal'ə tē), *pl. -ties, n.* —**fru'gal-ly** *adv.*

fruit (frōōt) *n.* [*< L fructus*] 1 any plant product, as grain or vegetables: *usually used in pl.* 2 *a)* an edible plant structure, often sweet, containing the seeds inside a juicy pulp: many true fruits that are not sweet, as tomatoes, are popularly called *vegetables* *b)* *Bot.* the mature seed-bearing part of a flowering plant 3 the result or product of any action

fruit'cake' *n.* a rich cake containing

nuts, preserved fruit, citron, spices, etc.

fruit fly any of various small flies whose larvae feed on fruits and vegetables

fruit'ful (-fəl) *adj.* 1 bearing much fruit 2 productive; prolific 3 profitable

fru·i·tion (frōō ish'an) *n.* 1 the bearing of fruit 2 a coming to fulfillment; realization

fruit'less (-lis) *adj.* 1 without results; unsuccessful 2 bearing no fruit; sterile; barren —**fruit'less-ly** *adv.* —**fruit'less-ness** *n.*

frump (frump) *n.* [prob. < Du *rompelen*, rumple] a dowdy woman —**frump'ish** *adj.* —**frump'y**, **-i-er**, **-i-est**, *adj.*

frus·trate (frus'trāt') *vt.* **-trat'ed**, **-trat'ing** [*< L frustra*, in vain] 1 to cause to have no effect 2 to prevent from achieving a goal or gratifying a desire —**frus-tra'tion** *n.*

fry¹ (fri) *vt., vi.* **fried**, **fry'ing** [*< L frigere*, to fry] to cook in a pan over direct heat, usually in hot fat —*n., pl.* **fries** 1 [*pl.*] fried potatoes 2 a social gathering at which food is fried and eaten [a fish fry]

fry² (fri) *pl.n., sing.* **fry** [*< OFr freier*, to rub, spawn] young fish

fry'er *n.* 1 a utensil for deep-frying 2 a chicken for frying

FSLIC *abbrev.* Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation

ft *abbrev.* foot; feet

Ft *abbrev.* Fort

FTC *abbrev.* Federal Trade Commission

fuch·sia (fyōō'shə) *n.* [after L. *Fuchs* (1501-66), Ger botanist] 1 a shrubby plant with pink, red, or purple flowers 2 purplish red

fud·dle (fud'l) *vt.* **-dled**, **-dling** [*< ?*] to confuse or stupefy as with alcoholic liquor —*n.* a fuddled state

fud·dy-dud·dy (fud'ē dud'ē) *n., pl.* **-dies** [*Inf.*] a fussy or old-fashioned person

fudge (fuj) *n.* [*< ?*] a soft candy made of butter, milk, sugar, chocolate or other flavoring, etc. —*vi.* **fudged**, **fudg'ing** 1 to refuse to commit oneself; hedge 2 to be dishonest; cheat

fu·el (fyōō'al, fyōōl) *n.* [ult. < L *focus*, fireplace] 1 coal, oil, gas, wood, etc., burned to supply heat or power 2 material from which nuclear energy can be obtained 3 anything that intensifies strong feeling —*vt., vi.* **fu'eled** or **fu'elled**, **fu'el-ing** or **fu'el-ling** to supply with or get fuel

fuel injection a system for injecting a fine spray of fuel into the combustion chambers of an engine

fu·gi·tive (fyōō'ji tiv) *adj.* [*< L fugere*, to flee] 1 fleeing, as from danger or justice 2 fleeting —*n.* one who is fleeing from justice, etc. —**fu'gi-tive-ly** *adv.*

fugue (fyōōg) *n.* [*< L fugere*, to flee] a musical work in which a theme is taken up successively and developed by the various parts or voices in counterpoint

-ful (fəl; for 2, usually fōōl) [*< FULL*¹] *suffix* 1 a) full of, having [joyful] b) having the qualities of or tendency to [helpful] 2 the quantity that will fill [handful]

ful·crum (fōōl'krəm, ful'-) *n., pl.* **-crums** or **-crā** (-krā) [L, a support] the support

on which a lever turns in raising something

ful·fill (fōōl fil') *vt.* **-filled'**, **-fill'ing** [OE *fullfyllan*] 1 to carry out (a promise, etc.) 2 to do (a duty, etc.); obey 3 to satisfy (a condition) Brit. sp. **ful·fil'**, **-filled'**, **-fill'ing** —**ful·fill'ment** or **ful·fil'ment** *n.*

full¹ (fōōl) *adj.* [OE] 1 having in it all there is space for; filled 2 having eaten all that one wants 3 having a great deal or number (of) 4 complete [a full dozen] 5 having reached the greatest size, extent, etc. [a full moon] 6 plump; round [a full face] 7 with wide folds; flowing [a full skirt] —*n.* the greatest amount, extent, etc. —*adv.* 1 to the greatest degree; completely 2 directly; exactly —**full'ness** or **ful'ness** *n.*

full² (fōōl) *vt., vi.* [*< L fullo*, cloth fuller] to shrink and thicken (wool cloth) —**full'er** *n.*

full'back' *n.* Football one of the running backs, used typically for blocking an opponent

full'-blood'ed *adj.* 1 of unmixed breed or race 2 vigorous

full'-blown' *adj.* 1 in full bloom 2 fully developed; matured

full'-bore' *adv.* to the greatest degree or extent —*adj.* all-out

full'-fledged' *adj.* completely developed or trained; of full status

full moon the moon when it reflects light as a full disk

full'-scale' *adj.* 1 according to the original or standard scale 2 to the utmost degree; all-out

full'-size' *adj.* 1 of the usual or standard size 2 of a large size Also **full'-sized'**

full'-throat'ed *adj.* 1 having or producing deep, rich sound 2 complete and unmitigated

full'-time' *adj.* of or engaged in work, study, etc. that takes all of one's regular working hours

full'y *adv.* 1 completely; thoroughly 2 at least

ful·mi·nate (ful'mə nāt') *vi.* **-nat'ed**, **-nat'ing** [*< L fulmen*, lightning] to express strong disapproval —**ful'mi-na'tion** *n.*

ful·some (fōōl'səm) *adj.* [see FULL¹ & -SOME¹, but infl. by ME *ful*, foul] disgusting, esp. because excessive

fum·ble (fum'bəl) *vi., vt.* **-bled**, **-bling** [prob. < ON *famla*] 1 to grope (for) or handle (a thing) clumsily 2 to lose one's grasp on (a football, etc.) —*n.* a fumbling —**fum'bler** *n.*

fume (fyōōm) *n.* [*< L fumus*] [often *pl.*] a gas, smoke, or vapor, esp. if offensive or suffocating —*vi.* **fumed**, **fum'ing** 1 to give off fumes 2 to show anger

fu·mi·gate (fyōō'mə gāt') *vt.* **-gat'ed**, **-gat'ing** [*< L fumus*, smoke + *agere*, do] to expose to fumes, esp. so as to disinfect or kill the vermin in —**fu'mi-ga'tion** *n.* —**fu'mi-ga'tor** *n.*

fum·y (fyōōm'ē) *adj.* **-i-er**, **-i-est** full of or producing fumes; vaporous

fun (fun) *n.* [*< ME fonne, foolish*] 1 *a*) lively, joyous play or playfulness *b*) pleasure 2 a source of amusement — *adj.* [*Inf.*] intended for pleasure or amusement — **make fun of** to ridicule

func-tion (funk'shən) *n.* [*< L fungi, to perform*] 1 the normal or characteristic action of anything 2 a special duty required in work 3 a formal ceremony or social occasion 4 a thing that depends on and varies with something else — *vi.* to act in a required manner; work; be used — **func'tion-less** *adj.*

func'tion-al *adj.* 1 of a function 2 performing a function 3 *Med.* affecting a function of some organ without apparent organic changes

functional illiterate a person who cannot read well enough to carry out everyday activities

func'tion-ar'y (-shə ner'ē) *n., pl. -ies* an official performing some function

function word a word, as an article or conjunction, serving mainly to show grammatical relationship

fund (fund) *n.* [*L fundus, bottom*] 1 a supply that can be drawn upon; stock 2 *a*) a sum of money set aside for a purpose *b*) [*pl.*] ready money — *vt.* 1 to put or convert into a long-term debt that bears interest 2 to provide funds for (a project, retirement of a debt, etc.)

fun-da-men-tal (fun'də ment'l) *adj.* [*see prec.*] of or forming a foundation or basis; basic; essential — *n.* a principle, theory, law, etc. serving as a basis — **fun'da-men'tal-ly** *adv.*

fun'da-men'tal-ism' *n.* [*sometimes F-*] religious beliefs based on a literal interpretation of the Bible — **fun'da-men'tal-ist** *n., adj.*

fund'rais'er (-rā'zər) *n.* 1 one soliciting money for a charity, political party, etc. 2 an event held to obtain such money — **fund'rais'ing** *n.*

fu-ner-al (fyōō'nər əl) *n.* [*< L funus*] the ceremonies connected with burial or cremation of a dead person

funeral director one who manages a funeral home

funeral home (or **parlor**) an establishment where the bodies of the dead are prepared for burial or cremation and where funeral services can be held

fu-ne-re-al (fyōō nir'ē əl) *adj.* suitable for a funeral; sad and solemn; dismal — **fu-ne're-al-ly** *adv.*

fun-gi-cide (fun'jə sīd') *n.* [*see -CIDE*] any substance that kills fungi

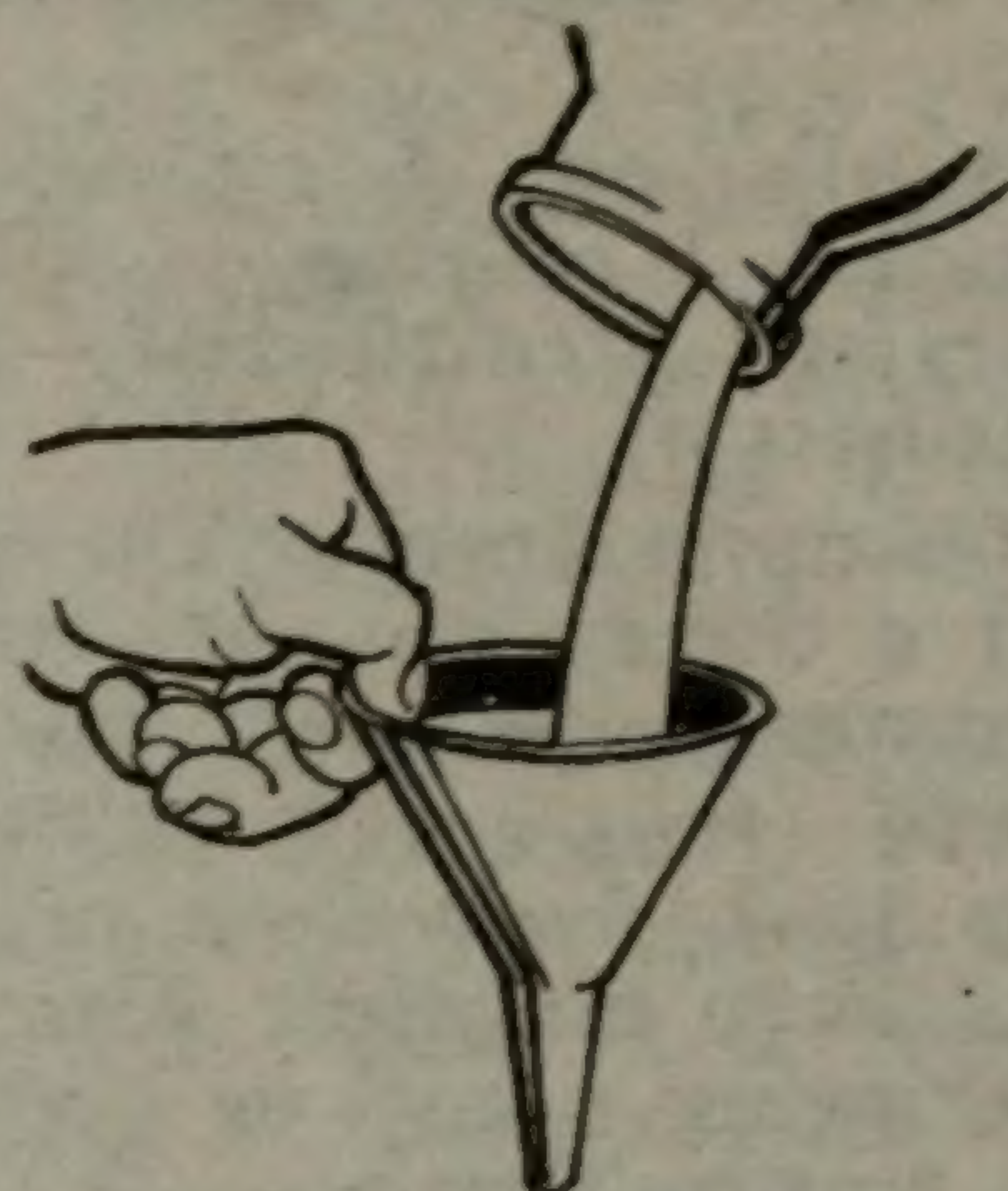
fun-gus (fun'gəs) *n., pl. fun-gi* (fun'ji') or **fun'gus-es** [*< L*] any of various plants or plantlike organisms, as molds, mildews, mushrooms, etc., that lack chlorophyll, stems, and leaves and reproduce by spores — **fun'gal** or **fun'gous** *adj.*

fu-nic-u-lar (fyōō nik'yōō lər) *n.* [*< L funiculus, little rope*] a mountain railway with counterbalanced cable cars on parallel sets of rails: also **funicular railway**

funk (funk) *n.* [*< ? Fl fonck, dismay*] 1 [*Inf.*] a state of great fear; panic 2

[*Inf.*] a depressed mood 3 popular music derived from rhythm and blues

funk-y (fun'kē) *adj. -i-er, -i-est* [*orig., earthy*] 1 *Jazz* having an earthy style derived from early blues 2 [*Slang*] unconventional, eccentric, offbeat, etc.



FUNNEL

fun-nel (fun'əl) *n.* [*ult. < L fundere, to pour*] 1 a tapering tube with a cone-shaped mouth, for pouring things into small-mouthed containers 2 the smokestack of a steamship — *vi., vt. -neled or -nelled, -nel-ing or -nel-ling* to move or pour as through a funnel

fun-nies (fun'ēz) *pl.n.* [*Inf.*] comic strips

fun-ny (fun'ē) *adj. -ni-er, -ni-est* 1 causing laughter; humorous 2 [*Inf.*] *a*) strange *b*) tricky — **fun'ni-ly** *adv.* — **fun'ni-ness** *n.*

funny bone a place on the elbow where a sharp impact on a nerve causes a tingling sensation

funny farm [*Slang*] an institution for the mentally ill

fur (fər) *n.* [*< OFr fuerre, sheath*] 1 the soft, thick hair covering certain animals 2 a processed skin bearing such hair — *adj.* of fur — **furred** *adj.*

fur-be-low (fər'bə lō') *n.* [*ult. < Fr fal-bala*] 1 a flounce or ruffle 2 a showy, useless decorative addition

fur-bish (fər'bish) *vt.* [*< OFr forbir*] 1 to polish; burnish 2 to renovate

Fu-ries (fyoor'ēz) *pl.n.* *Gr. & Rom. Myth.* the three terrible female spirits who punish the perpetrators of unavenged crimes

fu-ri-ous (fyoor'ē əs) *adj.* 1 full of fury; very angry 2 very great, intense, wild, etc. — **fu'ri-ous-ly** *adv.*

furl (fərl) *vt.* [*< L firmus, FIRM¹ + ligare, to tie*] to roll up (a sail, flag, etc.) tightly and make secure

fur-long (fər'lōŋ') *n.* [*< OE furh, a furrow + lang, LONG¹*] a measure of distance equal to $\frac{1}{8}$ of a mile

fur-lough (fər'lō) *n.* [*< Du verlof*] a leave of absence, esp. for military personnel — *vt.* to grant a furlough to

fur-nace (fər'nəs) *n.* [*< L fornax, furnace*] an enclosed structure in which heat is produced, as by burning fuel

fur-nish (fər'nish) *vt.* [*< OFr furnir*] 1 to supply with furniture, etc.; equip 2 to supply; provide

fur'nish-ings *pl.n.* 1 the furniture, carpets, etc. as for a house 2 things to wear [*men's furnishings*]

fur-ni-ture (fər'ni chər) *n.* [Fr *fourniture*] 1 the things in a room, etc. which equip it for living, as chairs, beds, etc. 2 necessary equipment

fu-ror (fyoor'ôr') *n.* [< L] 1 fury; frenzy 2 *a*) a widespread enthusiasm; craze *b*) a commotion or uproar Also [Chiefly Brit.] **fu'rore'**

fur-ri-er (fər'ē ər) *n.* one who processes furs or deals in fur garments

fur-ring (fər'ɪŋ) *n.* thin strips of wood fixed on a wall, floor, etc. before adding boards or plaster

fur-row (fər'ō) *n.* [< OE *furh*] 1 a narrow groove made in the ground by a plow 2 anything like this, as a deep wrinkle —*vt.* to make furrows in —*vi.* to become wrinkled

fur-ry (fər'ē) *adj.* -*ri-er*, -*ri-est* 1 of or like fur 2 covered with fur —**fur'ri-ness** *n.*

fur-ther (fər'thər) *adj.* [OE *furthor*] 1 *alt. compar. of FAR* 2 additional 3 more distant; farther —*adv.* 1 *alt. compar. of FAR* 2 to a greater degree or extent 3 in addition 4 at or to a greater distance; farther —*vt.* to give aid to; promote In sense 3 of the *adj.* and sense 4 of the *adv.*, **FARTHER** is more commonly used —**fur'ther-ance** *n.*

fur'ther-more' *adv.* in addition; besides; moreover

fur-thest (fər'thist) *adj.* 1 *alt. superl. of FAR* 2 most distant; farthest: also **fur'ther-most'** —*adv.* 1 *alt. superl. of FAR* 2 at or to the greatest distance or degree

fur-tive (fər'tiv) *adj.* [< L *fur*, a thief] done or acting in a stealthy manner; sneaky —**fur'tive-ly** *adv.* —**fur'tive-ness** *n.*

fu-ry (fyoor'ē) *n.*, *pl.* -*ries* [< L *furere*, to rage] 1 violent anger; wild rage 2 violence; vehemence

furze (fərz) *n.* [OE *fyrz*] a prickly evergreen shrub native to Europe

fuse¹ (fyōōz) *vt.*, *vi.* **fused**, **fus'ing** [< L *fundere*, to shed] 1 to melt 2 to unite as if by melting together

fuse² (fyōōz) *n.* [< L *fusus*, spindle] 1 a tube or wick filled with combustible material, for setting off an explosive charge 2 *Elec.* a strip of easily melted metal placed in a circuit: it melts and breaks the circuit if the current becomes too strong

fu-see (fyōō zē') *n.* [Fr *fusée*, a rocket] a colored flare used as a signal by railroad workers, truck drivers, etc.

fu-se-lage (fyōō'sə lāzh', -lāj') *n.* [Fr] the body of an airplane, exclusive of the wings, tail assembly, and engines

fu-si-ble (fyōō'zə bəl) *adj.* that can be fused or easily melted

fu-si-lier or **fu-sil-er** (fyōō'zə lir') *n.* [Fr] [Historical] a soldier armed with a flintlock musket

fu-sil-lade (fyōō'sə lād', -lād') *n.* [Fr < *fusiller*, to shoot] a simultaneous or

rapid and continuous discharge of many firearms

fu-sion (fyōō'zhən) *n.* [L *fusio*] 1 a fusing or melting together 2 a blending; coalition 3 **NUCLEAR FUSION** 4 a style of popular music blending elements of jazz, rock, etc.

fuss (fus) *n.* [prob. echoic] 1 nervous, excited activity; bustle 2 a nervous state 3 a quarrel 4 a showy display of approval, etc. —*vi.* 1 to bustle about or worry over trifles 2 to whine, as a baby

fuss'budg'et (-buj'it) *n.* [prec. + **BUDGET**] [Inf.] a fussy person: also [Inf., Chiefly Brit.] **fuss'pot'** (-pät')

fuss'y *adj.* -*i-er*, -*i-est* 1 *a*) worrying over trifles *b*) hard to please *c*) whining, as a baby 2 full of unnecessary details —**fuss'i-ly** *adv.* —**fuss'i-ness** *n.*

fus-tian (fus'chən) *n.* [< L *fustis*, wooden stick] pompous, pretentious talk or writing; bombast

fus-ty (fus'tē) *adj.* -*ti-er*, -*ti-est* [< OFr *fust*, a cask] 1 musty; moldy 2 old-fashioned —**fus'ti-ly** *adv.* —**fus'ti-ness** *n.*

fut *abbrev.* future

fu-tile (fyōōt'əl) *adj.* [< L *futilis*, lit., that easily pours out] useless; vain —**fu'tile-ly** *adv.* —**fu-til-i-ty** (fyōō til'ə tē), *pl.* -*ties*, *n.*

fu-ton (fōō'tän') *n.* [Sino-Jpn] a thin mattress like a quilt, placed as on the floor or a platform frame for use as a bed

fu-ture (fyōō'chər) *adj.* [< L *futurus*, about to be] 1 that is to be or come 2 indicating time to come [the *future tense*] —*n.* 1 the time that is to come 2 what is going to be 3 the chance to succeed, etc. 4 [usually *pl.*] a contract for a commodity bought or sold for delivery at a later date —**fu'tur-is'tic** *adj.*

fu-tu-ri-ty (fyōō toor'ə tē, -tyoor'-) *n.*, *pl.* -*ties* 1 the future 2 a future condition or event 3 a race for two-year-old horses in which the entries are selected before birth: in full **futurity race**

fu-tur-ol-o-gy (fyōō'chər əl'ə jē) *n.* [FUTUR(E) + -OLOGY] the study of probable or presumed future conditions as extrapolated from known facts —**fu'tur-ol'o-gist** *n.*

futz (futs) *vi.* [? < Yiddish] [Slang] to trifle or fool (around)

fuzz (fuz) *n.* [< ?] 1 loose, light particles of down, wool, etc.; fine hairs or fibers —**the fuzz** [Slang] a policeman or the police —**fuzz'y**, -*i-er*, -*i-est*, *adj.*

fuzzy logic [< *fuzzy* (*set*), coined (1965) by L. A. Zadeh, U.S. scientist] a type of logic used in computers for processing imprecise or variable data

-fy (fi) [< L *facere*, do] *suffix* 1 to make [*liquefy*] 2 to cause to have [*glorify*] 3 to become [*putrefy*]

FYI *abbrev.* for your information